

The Mining Journal

AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

No. 15.

London, Saturday, December 5, 1835.

PRICE 7d.

IN SALE.—At the Office of CHARLES MANN, Stock and Share Broker, 7, Old Broad-street. Shares in several of the best Mining Companies of Cornwall that are now dividend. Shares in the Iron Railways, Gas, Fire, and Life Insurance Companies, &c. &c. Likewise United States' Stocks and Bank Shares, that are now paying a dividend per cent.

GREAT WESTERN MINING ASSOCIATION.—Capital £2,000,000.—In 10,000 Shares of £200. each—Deposit £5. BANKERS—London and Westminster Bank. Applications for Shares may be addressed to J. S. Masset, Esq., 4, Angel Court, Throgmorton Street, or to Messrs. Lacy and Bridges, Solicitors, 19, King's Yard, Coleman Street.

MEXICAN COMPANY.

THE Directors of this Company having, under and by virtue of the powers vested in them by the Deed of Constitution, made a call of Two shillings per share on each and every of the Shares of the Company; the Proprietors required to pay the same to Messrs. Masterman, Peters and Co. No. 35, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, to the account of the Trustees of the Company, on or before the 7th of December next, J. M. MAUDE, Secretary. 22, Great Winchester-street, 6th November, 1835.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

Valuable Culm COLLIERY, held under leases for terms of sufficient duration; with the stock, plants, &c. The Colliery is open, and all work, and is most advantageously situated, having the means of transit at a low rate, to one of the first ports in South Wales. For particulars, apply to Messrs. W. Brough and Son, Mineral Surveyors, &c. If by letter to be paid.

DOMBMARTIN LEAD, SILVER, AND COPPER MINES.

THESE celebrated Mines, which produced such immense revenues to several of the British Monarchs and private individuals, were first opened in 1293, and have since been worked at four different periods, with great success, until the year 1789; but all the respective adventurers were under the necessity of abandoning them, from want of machinery of sufficient power to subdue the mineral. Three other attempts have been made down to 1825: but the adventurers had the same fate as their predecessors. The treasures remaining undiscovered are considered inexhaustible. It is resolved by a company to be called the Coombmartin and North Devon Mining Company, to enter the same immediately, and erect a steam engine of sufficient power to clear the water at a depth of from 80 to 100 fathoms deeper than the ancient bottoms; by which trial, it is duly expected the present adventurers will reap a rich reward by the speculations. The company's prospects may be had at Barfield's Library, Ifracombe; its Arms, Coombmartin; Valley of Rocks Hotel, Lintun; Mr. Bevington's Golden Lion, Barnstaple; Golden Lion, Swanscombe; J. T. Price, Esq., Neath Abbey Inn; the principal Inn at Cardiff and Newport; Mr. Mundy, Old Bath Bank; Mr. Bentley, Stationer, John-street, Bristol; Brown's Commercial Tavern, Wells; Clifton; Crown Inn, Cheltenham; and Red Lion, Bull and Mouth, London; at the Copper Co.'s Office, Hayle; at the principal Inn in Plymouth and Falmouth; and of Captain Richard Morecam, East Wheal Friendship near Totnes, Devon.

The first general Meeting of this Company will be held at the Golden Lion Inn, Barnstaple, on Thursday, the 10th of December next, at eleven o'clock, A. M. for election of Directors, &c.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.

THE Directors of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Carlisle Railway hereby give Notice that on Tuesday, the 1st day of December next, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at their office in Newcastle-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, they will be, by Public Tender, of SIX HUNDRED QUARTER SHARES in that under-taking, being the Surplus remaining in their hands after setting apart 3000 shares for the existing shareholders.

The minimum price at which these quarter shares will be sold having been fixed at £100. each, the highest Tender at or above £25. per quarter share will be accepted. The terms of payment are stated below.

(Signed) JOHN ADAMSON, Clerk to the Company.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, Nov. 10, 1835.

2. Deposit on each quarter share in cash, on or before 5th December, 1835.

3. On the 1st Tuesday in February, 1836.

4. On the 1st Tuesday in August, 1836.

5. On the 1st Tuesday in October, 1836.

6. On the 1st Tuesday in January, 1837.

7. Payments to be made to Robert Boyd, Esq., the Treasurer.

CORNWALL UNITED MINING ASSOCIATION.

SEVERAL MINING SETS having been obtained by a Gentleman in Cornwall, (of extensive Mining connexions, and possessing the greatest facilities for obtaining Grants of Land for Mines,) in which Sets have been discovered of ore of great promise.

It is proposed to form a Company for the effectual working of the several Mines, such Sets have been obtained.

Capital, £20,000, in 2,000 Shares of £10 each.

Other applications for Shares to Messrs. John and Henry Hore, of No. 13, Copourt, Throgmorton-street, where Samples of the Ores may be seen.

To be Let on a Lease, for a Term not exceeding 24 Years,

VALUABLE MINING FIELD, situate NEAR WOLSINGHAM, County of Durham, known by the name of Sunnside. The prospect of success is rendered flattering, on account of good levels being driven to the vein unexplored by the late Company.

Further Particulars apply to Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Hudgill, in Teesdale; or Jonathan Wooller, of Wolsingham.

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GEOLOGICAL TRANSACTIONS.

THE FIRST PART OF THE FOURTH VOLUME is Just Published. Price to the Fellows, 11s.; to the Public, 16s.

CONTENTS—1. *Buckland and De la Beche in the Neighbourhood of Weymouth*; 2. *Sedgwick on the Cumbrian Mountains*; and, 3. *Sedgwick on the Carboniferous Chain from Penrith to Kirkby Stephen*. With Six Coloured Maps and Sections.

Sold at the Apartments of the Society, in Somerset House.

VALUABLE COLLIERY TO BE LET,

For such period as may be agreed on, entry at Martinmas next,

THAT well-known and extensive COLLIERY of HALBEATH, in the Parish of Dunfermline, with the RAILWAY, MANAGERS' HOUSES, COLLIERS' HOUSES, and other necessary Buildings, and also the Whole Machinery, Waggon, and Utensils, presently use.

There is an excellent field of Splt Coal, which may be fitted to great advantage; and, in addition to the Splt and the other usual kinds of Coal, there is an excellent seam of PARROT COAL PRESENTLY WORKING, for which there is a considerable demand, and which can be worked to great profit. The machinery and utensils are in excellent working order, and the Managers' and Colliers' Houses are in good repair.

There is an Iron Railway attached to the Colliery, which joins it with the shipping Port of Inverkeithing, from which it is distant from 5 to 6 miles. The Harbour and Roadstead of Inverkeithing are admitted to be among the best in the Firth of Forth.

The Trade of the Colliery has been long established, and the Sales have amounted

at an average to from 40,000 to 50,000 tons per annum.

There are very extensive Fields of Coal adjoining to the Railway, and which could be obtained by the Tenant on moderate Terms.

The Tenant can also have, if wished, a small Farm, of about — imperial Acre of good Land, near the Colliery.

Application to be made to Thomas Mansfield, Esq., Accountant, Chambers, No. 7, Thistle-street; or to Smith and Kinnear, W. S., Chambers, 81, George-street, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh, 17th November, 1835.

BRITISH and AMERICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY. Capital £500,000, in 5,000 SHARES of £100 each; 10 per cent. to be paid on the allotment of the shares, and 10 per cent. further call on making the contracts for building the first two ships. The first line of steam ships to run between London and New York.

Chairman, ISAAC SALLY, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

Col. Aspinwall, American Consul General; George W. Lee, Esq.; Richard Price, Esq.; Captain George Probyn; William Solly, Esq.; Junius Smith, Esq., Ship's Husband, Agent of the Union Line of New York Packets; Captain Thomas Larkins.

With power to add to their number.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Prescott, Grote, and Co., 62, Threadneedle-street, London; Messrs. Atkins and Son, Portsmouth.

AUDITORS.

William Glover, Esq., and Henry John Rucker, Esq.

STANDING COUNSEL.

Sir F. Pollock, M.P., K.C., John Lindgren, Esq., Agent at Portsmouth.

Applications for prospectuses and shares to be made to Messrs. Prescott, Grote, and Co., bankers, 62, Threadneedle street; or to Junius Smith, Esq., New York Packet Office, 4, Fen-court, Fenchurch-street.

TO CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that tenders for the improvement of the Harbour of Aberavon, Glamorgan, by making Dock Gates, and by forming a new channel by scouring, &c., according to a plan, and specification, to be seen at the Office of Mr. W. Llewellyn, Solicitor, Neath; or at the Office of Messrs. Virens, Batten, James, and Co., Castle Baynard, London; or at the Office of Mr. T. Wills, Narrow Wine Street, Bristol, will be received on or before the 26th day of December next.

Sealed tenders addressed to either of the above parties will have immediate attention; none need apply who cannot give sufficient securities for the fulfilment of the contract.

TO ZINC MANUFACTURERS AND SILVER REFINERS.

THE PARYS MINE COMPANY having recently opened a mine on Pary's Mountain, producing an ore consisting of sulphuret of copper, zinc, and lead, with a small portion of unmetalliferous earth, the lead containing a small portion of silver, are desirous of selling the same on bank for shipment, to be smelted elsewhere; or to contract for separating these metals upon the mine, where there are kilns and furnaces outside of the operation, or pits for precipitating the metal if that be deemed best; together with buildings where furnaces may be erected for zinc retorts. The sulphate of lead being insoluble in water, may be smelted for its lead and silver.

Apply to Mr. Pritchard, Pary's Mine, Amlwch, Anglesey.—Nov. 24, 1835.

MEXICAN and SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.

THE HOLDERS of SHARES in this COMPANY are reminded that the THIRD INSTALMENT of ONE POUND per Share became due on the 1st Instant, payable at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.'s, and that unless the same be paid within Fifteen Days from that date, the Shares will be sold agreeably to the conditions of the Certificates.

H. W. SCHNEIDER, Sec.

CARN GREY TIN MINING COMPANY.

IT having been Resolved, at a Meeting of the Directors, that a CALL of ONE POUND per Share be made due the 1st of January, the Holders of Shares are therefore requested to pay the same to Messrs. Dredett and Fowler, Bankers, 60, Broad-street, on or before the 1st of January next.

46, Lime-street, Nov. 30, 1835.

JOHN W. F. DALTON.

SOUTH DURHAM RAILWAY.

THIS Railroad promises much to those who may be so fortunate as to be admitted Shareholders. The certainty of the great traffic there will be upon it, as great as on any railway in the north of England, insures its success, and justifies the high opinion that has been entertained of it by those who can fully appreciate and understand the objects of the undertaking. This is no job, conceived for the sake of speculation, but a sound, rational project, having for its object the opening out of a district rich in coal of the finest quality, till now possessing 99 per cent. of carbon, which is in the greatest request but hitherto it has only been used in the district where it is produced; by this railroad the southern division of Durham, Cleveland, and the north of Yorkshire will be supplied with it, and lead of a fine kind, and in great abundance. All the landed proprietors have given their assent to the measure, and the plans, &c. have been duly deposited.

COAL TRADE.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

There can be no question that England offers an ample field for an advantageous investment of capital in her mineral districts; and I, for one, am glad to see the day when the attention of the monied interests is diverted from the channels to which it has been so long almost entirely directed, and that the mines of our own country have now a considerable share of that attention.

Correspondent of Mining Journal.

SIR—In the above sentiments of your valuable correspondent I most heartily concur, and I think in expressing these few remarks, he speaks the sentiments of a large class of the influential monied public, as well as every one who has any acquaintance with the value and importance of the mineral districts of the country. That there is still a great field open for the profitable employment of capital in mining operations is the firm and conscientious opinion of the humble individual who now addresses you; and that a greater knowledge relative to this interesting branch of industry may yet be extended, not only amongst those whose daily occupation is mining, but also the scientific and learned, appears evident from the great interest at present taken relative to mining matters, together with the desire at present so generally evinced for the formation of so laudable an establishment as a school of mines; the utility of which cannot be doubted, and its success, it is to be hoped, is certain. The neglect of the science of mining is beginning to be felt from the great use experienced from a more scientific management of mines, on the greater safety and profit in working at times so dangerous a branch of employment; and it may confidently be expected that from the united efforts of so many talented individuals taking such an interest in the working of the mineral products of the country, that a new era will be formed in the annals of mining. It was not the intention of the writer of these few observations to have troubled you again so soon on the subject of the coal fields of the counties of Durham and Northumberland, which, from their natural value and importance, form so prominent a part amongst the mining districts of the country; and from the many improvements daily taking place by the formation of roads and rail-road communications, as well as manufactures in all directions, and the general improvement of the land of this part of the country, opportunities rarely to be met with, offer themselves for the useful and most profitable investment of capital, but for the remark in a letter of another of your correspondents to the Journal of the 28th instant, with the date of London, and with the signature of "C. C.," and which your correspondent says were suggested by the observations of my former letter in your extensively circulated and valuable paper of the 21st ult. in reference to the formation of a public company

for working the coal in these districts. The value and importance of the coal trade is undoubtedly, and it appears from an observation of your correspondent, that he is connected with the London coal trade himself: he will therefore, no doubt, be well acquainted with its value and importance as well to the northern districts as the metropolis, and must consequently be interested in its prosperity; but, Sir, I think he has entirely mistaken the suggestions contained in my letter, if he supposes it formed any part of my wishes, in advocating the formation of a public company for working the northern coal districts, that the "coal trade" should be destroyed. I feel too deeply interested in the prosperity of my native district, and know too well the value of the coal trade to the country, as well as the many interests dependent upon it for support, ever to wish to see it but what it is, doing well and in a good condition, and capable of extension to a very considerable extent. Neither do I conceive that a public company formed for such a purpose can have any such effect as that contemplated by your correspondent. C. C. is no doubt perfectly correct in his remark, that any new scheme for the formation of a public company for any particular object ought to appear of a feasible nature, and without really proving injurious to extensive existing interests of national importance, to gain the support of the public, and offer a legitimate investment for capital. He says, in the fair sense of the word, he is a friend to legitimate investment: now I should simply venture to ask your correspondent if he has maturely considered the nature of a public company for the above objects, when he hastily comes to the conclusion that such a company would have the effect of throwing the trade into confusion, and be the ruin of all existing interests, and a serious misfortune to the country? Does C. C. think, that because I advocated the formation of a public coal-mining company, that it was necessary to work all the unwrought coal in the country at once? Why, if that were the object of a company, the trade might be injured and ruined at once, by an over-supply, and —'s (see C. C.'s letter for name of colliery) Wallsend come down again to 14s. a chaldron in the dog-days. The objection of C. C. it appears must only be to the extent of the operation of a public company, but I will leave that to the judgment of the shareholders, who, as people now-a-days have their eyes open, will easily avoid falling into the error that C. C. seems to think as likely to happen from adopting my suggestion.

The advantages of a public company to be formed for the above purpose, are many. It would give employment to a large capital, and would be found to the large capitalist as well as the small tradesman, and others possessed of a small and limited income, an excellent opportunity of realizing a handsome per centage. The large amount of capital already employed in the trade by the private individuals now embarked in it, amply shews that the trade is more than a safe speculation, and most lucrative, if we may judge by the fortunes that have been made, and are now making by those who have any thing to do with it. It is like all other businesses, requiring good management to pay well, and from the nature of the trade, a public company would have superior advantages over the private owner. From natural and extensive interests and influence, it is a trade that must necessarily be left to the management of those only who are acquainted with it practically, and even part of the present owners themselves depend almost entirely upon the management of their agents; a company would do the same; and would be found quite able to compete with any others in the trade. It is a new field for the attention of the mere capitalist, and certainly is deserving of great attention; indeed the interest the Legislature has lately taken in reference to the state of the coal trade, must make it appear of national importance and attention. C. C. seems also to think that such a company at its first start would be crippled, if not entirely annihilated by the opposition of the present coal owners, through their "immense wealth and unlimited power." That I deny: I think I know them better; there is not a more honourable body of gentlemen than those connected with the coal trade, and I am confident that no unworthy opposition would be shown by them to the establishment of any such company for the above purpose; if a company were formed, I am rather inclined to think the trade would support it, by taking shares to have a voice in the management of its affairs, for the purpose of regulating the trade; C. C. seems to think that a company could do nothing. Perhaps it never struck him that a few current-going collieries could be purchased, or that it was not possible for a spirited public company of respectable men, with a large raised capital, in an open trade, to oppose opposition, or resist oppression, from any person or persons whomsoever; but I digress, C. C. knows better; nothing of this sort is ever likely to happen; it is his own created fancy. Let me again ask C. C. how does it happen, that since 1833, if the trade was fairly overdone, that a great many collieries have since been opened, but and for what purpose are coal owners buying estates, with good fields of coals under them, but for the purpose of working them? It is in the power of any person at present to open a colliery, and sell his coal for any price he thinks proper; and why would C. C. restrain a company in any useful operation, that at present is allowed to an individual. Is it fear, and of what? or is there some other mighty secret in the matter? I say, let the trade, if it thinks proper, fairly regulate itself; but do not let us shew hostile opposition to any public and open company, from any groundless or useless fear of imaginary consequences. The present collieries must gradually be worked out, and new ones will be required to supply the demand for fuel, so necessary an article in English use, that it cannot be done without some of the finest fields of coal are not yet opened out, and the contemplated public railroads will come right through them, thus saving all the old expense of laying railroads, and paying for way leaves and other contingencies. In short, the present time, when improvements are taking place by these means, present a fine opportunity, either for the speculation in coal-mines, by the private individual, or a public company of many proprietors; excellent coal fields are to be procured, and notwithstanding the remarks of our correspondent, I remain satisfied that a safe and profitable speculation could be entered upon by working the coal by a public company in the counties of Durham and Northumberland. The individual who writes these few observations is in no way connected with the trade, but he has not lived in this district all his life without having his eyes open to its natural advantages and resources, and the necessary modes to be adopted for availing ourselves of the national and local resources of the mineral riches of the country. The opinion is not singular; for allow me to tell C. C. there are many others both here and in London, who highly approve of the undertaking, and are determined to avail themselves of a profitable investment for their capital in the mineral fields of the country. I have to apologise for the length of these remarks, which, if it be not too great a favour, you will oblige by inserting in your next week's valuable paper, and if the subject be interesting, I may be tempted to extend the correspondence.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

This is the substance of what I have found to be believed by many well-informed persons. One of my informants went so far as to say that a rod which had grown near a lode is more readily affected than one which is grown elsewhere, and it is still believed by some that a skilful operator can detect the contents of a lode by having recourse to certain precautions. Pryce in his "Mineralogia Cornubiensis," says, that it is accomplished by holding in the hand a piece of the metal of which the influence is to be neutralized, but generally speaking it is considered that these refined observations are reserved for privileged eyes, as they are never exhibited to the uninitiated. Mr. Noall was blind folded, and taken into an adit, in one of the mines in Town Common, where he was desired to use his Dowsing Rod. Three lodes had been previously cut out there, and the rod moved on the operator approaching each of them. This was related to me by Mr. Noall, and confirmed by one of the parties concerned in the mine. The same person pretends (but I am not aware with what foundation) to have discovered the lode of Pembroke Mine, near St. Austell, by the use of the Dowsing Rod. I have the pleasure of being acquainted with a gentleman who deservedly stands at the head of the profession as a practical and scientific miner, who informs me that he was some years since employed by the proprietors of the estate of Drim, in the parish of Crowan, near Camborne, to costean the whole of that property, and that his labourers were employed, and had made some discoveries. One day while he was on the spot a person named Abraham Vial, alias Bennar, a native of Camborne, and a professed Dowsing, came by and offered to examine the ground. My informant consented, and accompanying him, had every spot at which the rod was agitated instantly noted, and he subsequently had excavations made on every of these stations, and *in each of them a lode was discovered*. The result of my information is, that some persons have by the use of the rod discovered the existence of lodes and springs of water, and more than this I am not prepared to say, for I am rather inclined to think that the operation of the same rod on the same tract is not the same in all hands, although I am not prepared to account for the difference."

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR—I must confess, that notwithstanding the subject has been handled by several of your correspondents, the Dowsing Rod remains, as heretofore, a doubtful and unsatisfactory point of discussion. I very recently met with a paper on the *Virgula divinatrix* by Mr. W. Phillips in the Philosophical Magazine of 1802, and I really am almost tempted to believe, that without acknowledging the authority, some of your writers have at least gleaned from his lucubrations. I forward you the copy of only a portion of the paper, and if you think it worth a place in the columns of your widely-extended journal, it is quite at your service. You will readily admit that *much* progress has not been made in detecting the "talismanic" virtues of the rod since the paper was read to the Philosophical Society. Mr. Phillips first mentions the antiquity of the use of the rod, and states the principal authors who have treated upon it, enumerating particularly Agricola, De Thounoud, Cookworthy, Rebeira, and Pryce, and then, after giving his own experience and views upon the subject, treats with much severity the "corpuscular philosophy" advocated by Boyle, Pryce, and others. But let him speak for himself.

"It is now but little, if at all practised in this country; the few among the curious, or among practical miners, who continue to assert that it possesses an influence in the discovery of ores, seem so far to have yielded to its opponents, as to have given up the use of it. Two, with whom I became acquainted in Cornwall, still assert their belief in it, and that it has been the means of discovering mines there; and a third assured me that he had himself, by the accidental use of the rod in place where he did not expect it to have been acted upon, viz. in his own shop, discovered a lode which is now working under the town of Redruth; but it must be acknowledged that there are many more among the most intelligent miners who ridicule the rod, than believe in the influence of minerals upon it. Taking it for granted, however, that metals do act upon the rod to the fullest extent of Cookworthy's belief, it still remains a question, notwithstanding the accommodating opinion of Pryce, whether it would prove a benefit to the miner, as it is allowed that it dips equally to the poor as to the rich lode, to a silver penny as to the mines of Potosi; for it is often experienced in Cornwall, that lodes are not wanting, but ore. The advantage to be derived from it, therefore, with regard to metallic veins, seems by no means a counter-balance to the miseries and uncertainties attending its use, for the projectors implicitly depending upon the information of the rod, might, at a ruinous expense, ransack the bowels of the earth, in consequence of its dipping to a rich gossan, or a dead lode.

"Believing, with Boyle, that they who have seen the experiment can much more reasonably believe than they who have not, and being desirous of annexing to this account of the divining rod any little testimonial of my own experience which a sedulous attention to the directions for using it might afford, I cut during the last winter a number of hazel rods, and laid them by till they became dry; when, having tied two together with a vegetable substance, I proceeded to endeavour the discovery of some piece of metal; but repeated trials, both by others and myself, afforded us no opportunity of becoming convinced by experience that metals possess any influence upon the rod; and we were obliged, in giving up the trial, to acknowledge that we possessed those "singular occult faculties" which, according to Agricola, in some people prevent its action. It would, however, be an absurd and unwarrantable conclusion, to assert that the accounts which have been handed to us have been fabricated merely to excite our wonder, because the effects which have been asserted to accompany the use of the rod occasionally, have not in these few instances been observed.

"Yet it has so long been considered the prerogative of human reason to deny what cannot be explained, that it is with much difficulty we can admit as fact, however respectable the authority, that of which we have no ocular or sensible testimony, or for which no physical cause has been assigned. Two centuries ago who would have believed in the existence of the electric fluid? or who, if ocular demonstration were wanting, would not deny the incomprehensible attraction of the magnet? Philosophy, like fanaticism, has its prejudices, and has often rejected as impossibilities what have afterwards been confirmed by experience. But so strongly does the respectability of its advocates claim a favourable opinion as to the real existence of the virtues ascribed to the divining rod, that though it seems impossible wholly to admit their testimony, it seems equally so wholly to reject it. Difficult, however, as is the admission of belief in the asserted virtue of the divining rod, and little as it has been understood by those who have most ably espoused its cause, it may not be amiss just to have the outlines of that theory to which it has been by them referred for explanation, that of the corpuscular philosophy, which is a mode of accounting for the phenomena of nature, by the motion, figure, rest, position, &c. of the corpuscles, or minute particles of matter. Pryce, in his "Mineralogia Cornubiensis," gives the following account of the mode in which these corpuscles or minute *impenetrable* and *divisible* particles of matter act through the medium of the human body or nerves, or by the assistance of the animal spirits, upon the divining rod. "The corpuscles," it is said "that arise from the minerals, entering the rod, determine it to bow down in order to render it parallel to the vertical lines which the effluvia descend in their use. In effect, the mineralogical particles seem to be emitted from the earth; now the virgula being of a light porous wood, gives an easy passage to those particles, which are very fine and subtle; the effluvia then, driven forwards by those that follow them, and pressed at the same time by the atmosphere incipient on them, are forced to enter the interstices between the fibres of the wood, and by that effort they oblige to incline, or dip down perpendicularly, to become parallel to those columns which the vapours form in their rise." If this jargon, this *supposition*, be not sufficiently absurd, I beg leave to refer to p. 114 of Pryce's work, where he attempts an elucidation of the corpuscular theory. If an advocate for this theory, as applied for solving the cause of the operation of the divining rod, were to be asked why rods and branches of other trees said to be attracted by metals, are not attracted by them in their natural growth, and why, consequently, they do not grow with their tops declining towards the earth, I am at a loss to conceive what would be the answer. Would he say that the *vis inertiae* of matter is not sufficiently powerful to overcome the living principle of the tree? or, would he not say that the human body is an excellent conductor of those minute particles or corpuscles, which, according to Hartley, are perpetually flying off from all bodies, for ever seeking combinations, and of the same electric matter forming an infinite variety of modifications throughout the universe. Some conclusion equally satisfactory and philosophical might be expected from the hypothetical states of this theory, and as, in all probability this theory cannot be established by ocular demonstration, or by any means be made manifest to our senses, it seems as if it were better to acknowledge, if really true,

DOWSING ROD.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR.—I have felt somewhat disappointed that among your numerous correspondents upon the subject of the "Dowsing Rod," no reference whatever has been made to an interesting article in the "Mining Review," from one of its contributors, in which this perplexing question is very fairly and candidly stated; neither do I find any observations from your pen, notwithstanding the numerous communications you have received; an omission in some degree remarkable. Is your mind in abeyance? Do you "half between two opinions?" As, at present, I take no part in the momentous disquisition, I shall not presume to offer an opinion, but await the issue of deeper research. In the mean time I forward the extract, and request you will insert it in your truly valuable journal.

Dec. 1, 1835.

I remain, Sir, your well-wisher,

J. H.

"Dowsing is a subject of which many are disposed to be incredulous, and there are very few who will positively acknowledge their belief and confidence in it, but so many instances of its success have been mentioned to me by respectable sagacious and candid eye-witnesses, that I am tempted to allude more particularly to some of the facts. Mr. Noall, of Redruth, in Cornwall, has obtained notoriety as a skilful operator, and I believe, I shall merely describe the popular opinion in detailing the information I have received from him, and finding it coincide with that obtained from very many other persons. The instrument is a two-forked twig—it is advisable, although not indispensable, that it should be but one year's growth,

any virtue in the rod, that, as in the instances of the magnetic influence and the electric fluid, it is one of those mysterious effects of the mysterious laws by which nature is governed, inscrutable to human wit and indefinable by human investigation."

"I hope the extract will not be considered too *lengthy*, if so, it is at your discretion to curtail it. With the best wishes for the success of your journal.

I remain, Sir, your's, &c. T. K. L.

RAILWAY GAZETTE, v. MINING JOURNAL.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR.—Your contemporary, the Editor of the *Railway Gazette*, who is perhaps more remarkable for his general ability than for industry in illustrating the great cause on which his journal professes to treat, thinks proper to make some rather caustic observations on what he conjures up as my motives for writing a few paragraphs in your City article of last Friday, on the subject of railroads lately projected leading from the metropolis. Passing over the ill humour by which his remarks are distinguished, and which is on the whole excusable, as I was invading a province which he appears to consider exclusively his own, I trust you will allow me to set him right upon some misrepresentations, arising probably not so much from design, as from the haste with which the article was evidently composed.

The Editor acknowledges you are not accountable for the opinions contained in the City article, and asserts it ought not to be dealt in comment. If prevalent opinions are not to be recorded or commented upon, would not a dry extract from a price current do quite as well as any City article?

After quoting the portion relating to railroads, he says it was written in order to uphold the line of railway to Brighton, which has been surveyed by Mr. Gibbs. I deny this, and I refer to the article itself, which treats of all the newly projected lines from London, as well as of the Brighton railways. Upon this subject, he says, my assertions are "founded upon unfounded." This charge is excessively provoking, it is worse than founded upon sand, nay, it is infinitely worse than the foundation of the new joint stock bridge, from Dover to Calais, which instead of being founded upon piers, is to be upheld by balloons. He then proceeds to say, that it is rather difficult to procure information about railways, in which it is to be supposed he is correct, especially when his present number is compared with some of the preceding. If Homer did sleep now and then, at all events I do not find it recorded, that he had one of his eyes shut when he was awake—he left that, no doubt, to the conductors of some of our modern newspapers.

The next charge against me is, that I charge the committee of Mr. Stephenson's Brighton line with very dishonourable conduct. Although your printer's assistant has omitted the word "off," which should have been inserted after the word "worse," thus leaving me open at first sight to some faint charge of this kind, yet I deny it altogether, and I appeal to the context, and to the paragraph, as it now stands, all that I said and still maintain is, that this committee have been unsuccessful in the diffusion of their shares; as to the manner in which attempts have been made to circulate them, I said it was unpopular. With regard to the public, who are to be attracted to the market to buy at a premium I still say, *caveat emptor*; as I do to all the long eared animals, who, with a judgment infinitely below that of their four-footed cousins have been so inconsiderate of late as to buy up shares in railways at a premium in respect of which railways no act of parliament either is, or is likely to be obtained, and which are therefore scarcely in *posse*.

You and I, Mr. Editor, are no doubt original subscribers to many of the railroads leading from the metropolis because we think well of them, and wish to promote a great local and national interest which has been too long and scandalously neglected; but we do not go about Quixote-like to subscribe to any not immediately connected with the great metropolitan interests which belong to the nation as well as to London, and which are sufficient for the present of themselves, to absorb all the national capital that can be spared; as to purchasing shares in any mere project at a premium, I feel persuaded that your worthy contemporary has also been quite wary enough to keep clear of all of them, except Stephenson's Brighton, and I should not have suspected him of making that mistake, but that he exposes himself by losing his *temper*.

Supposing that the shares in Mr. Stephenson's line may have been current for a day or so at a premium of £3 per share, I have never charged his committee with dishonourable practices as your contemporary thinks fit to do; in the mean time, the mode in which described the attempt to issue them is substantially correct; all that I can say in addition is, that if any shares have been got rid of at a premium, the public are even more off their guard than I expected them to be. Further on he says, that the quotation of share prices at the termination of the City article is a proof that I wrote from interested motives: to this I answer, first, that I described the particulars of the lines for the information of the public as they came before me, after a much more careful examination of the several rival projects in and near the metropolis than your contemporary, notwithstanding the title he assumes, has yet taken the trouble to enter upon.

As to the quotation of price I repeat, that it has always been nominal. If he still doubts, let him exert a small portion of the industry, which he of all others is bound to employ, to discover whether a member of Stephenson's committee has not been very recently offering to appropriate shares at par.

As to my doubting of the balance which the committee of this line may have placed at their bankers, or reprehending them for their wealth, I never said nor imagined the thing. All that I say and repeat is, that they have been remarkably unsuccessful in the attempt to diffuse their shares, chiefly from the unpopular and repulsive way of launching them. I repeat, that their subscriptions have been contributed, not by a multitude of small subscribers, but in very considerable sums, by a comparatively few wealthy persons; and I also believe, that these gentlemen who are known to mix up much caution with their wealth, will be found proportionately wanting in boldness when the time comes for a Parliamentary contest with the committees of the other lines.

Not to part in the spirit of malice with your able contemporary, who, I hope, will oblige us all by infusing something more of energy into his present undertaking, allow me to occupy a small portion more of your valuable space, in thanking him for the candour evinced in extracting the whole of that part of my last City article which related to railways, and thus diffusing my mite of information upon such reasonable terms to me. Believe me to be, Dear Editor, your obliged servant,

THE CONTRIBUTOR OF YOUR CITY LETTER.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR.—Having observed in your valuable Journal an advertisement for the formation of a company for working South Polgooth Mine, I take the liberty of making the following observations on the adventure. South Polgooth was formerly worked as "Wheat Davey," and was stopped during the panic in the spring of 1826, not on account of its poverty, but solely because money could not be obtained from the adventurers in London to carry it on; the shareholders in Cornwall, though most anxious to proceed, not being able to induce their partners in London to contribute towards the further necessary expenses, the mine was abandoned, after an outlay of £6,000, though at the time the appearances were highly promising. As a speculation, I consider South Polgooth worthy of trial, as all the work which was previously done, though of no benefit to the old company, will be of essential service to the new one. In the neighbourhood, I find a general opinion prevalent as to the prospects of success, residents in the vicinity of the mine having subscribed for shares in the company. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, AN ADVENTURER.

* * * We have, contrary to a rule generally observed by us, inserted the preceding letter, coming from a correspondent, having, by reference to documents, satisfied ourselves of its accuracy. We have, however, withheld it until our present number, as the allotment of the shares did not take place until this day.—Ed. J. M.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Will you be kind enough to favour us with the address of your *Traditionalist*, who writes such funny things about Captain Joe! We want to know of this gentleman if he will write a chapter about *Abel Dragger*, a holder of *Penay Scrip* Shares in several bals, and Pitman in *Wheat Rich*, alias *Wheat Breeches*, alias *Wheat Breeches*, of which we are the *overlookers*: if he will, he shall be furnished with materials for a good chapter by

Dear Mr. Editor,
Your humble Servants,
THE NINE MAIDENS.

Cambridge, Dec. 1, 1835.

ACCIDENTS IN MINES.

(Continued from page 118.)

On a review of their labours, your Committee cannot but feel apprehension that they have in great measure failed in devising adequate remedies for the painful calamities they have had to investigate; they entertain, notwithstanding, a sanguine expectation that the attention of the public will be availingly turned to this interesting subject. The aid they have received from many scientific and philanthropic characters in the course of this inquiry, and the disinterested zeal the parties have manifested, warrant these hopes. How far legislative enactments might come fairly in aid of the miner has had the serious consideration of your Committee, the great dissimilarity of the mineral strata of the kingdom, the constantly varying circumstances of particular mines, render it in their opinion impossible at present to lay down any precise directions, or to form any rules of universal application. Your Committee agree with many intelligent witnesses, that great benefit might be fairly and sanguinely anticipated from men of known ability being encouraged to visit the mines, whether in the character of distinguished chemists, mechanists, or philanthropists. Your Committee are assured that these visits would be received with pleasure by the mine owners, and that every assistance in the way of experimenting would be promptly afforded. They retain a grateful recollection of the results which followed the visits of Sir H. Davy.

"On considering what may be due to the comfort and welfare of a class of men who, at great personal risk, contribute largely to the necessities, luxuries and wealth of this great empire; the immense value of these mines to the community; the loss of life which has occurred, and the benefits which have already accrued from the labours and investigations of scientific characters; your Committee have been disposed maturely to weigh the suggestions which have been made to them upon the necessity of having this inquiry continued in the mining districts by competent individuals, acting under authority. They are not insensible to the advantages which might result from such a proceeding; but many serious objections having been stated to the proposition, your Committee conclude, under present circumstances, to abstain from giving an opinion upon the necessity or expediency of such a course. Your Committee are glad to find that increasing attention is paid to the moral culture and education of the mining population. From the establishment of associations similar to the Polytechnic School recently formed in Cornwall, as named by one or more witnesses, and the opportunity thus afforded of cultivating native talents, great advantages may be anticipated. Whilst your Committee have, in the case just alluded to, had pleasing proof of the solicitude with which the welfare and safety of the miners are consulted in many places, they cannot express the sense they entertain of the responsibility incurred by the owners of mines generally; in their hands are the lives of a vast number of their fellow creatures, industriously contributing to their personal and our national aggrandizement. The dependence placed upon agents and managers is necessarily great, and doubtless, in many instances, from the character of the individuals, justifiable. The number of subordinate overseers, under whatever name, ought never to be reduced on any pretence of economy; a vigilant oversight of these on the part of the owners, viewers, or managers, as well as a determination to employ none in responsible stations who have not recommended themselves by long experience, skill, sobriety, and habits of strict attention, may prevent many accidents. It is the bounden duty of these owners carefully and constantly to examine into the state of their mines; if this is not personally practicable, they ought to call for written daily reports from their subalterns, of every circumstance and event connected with the proper ventilation of the mine. There will, however, still remain to be exercised that quick perception of cause and effect, that accurate adaptation of means to the end, that nice observation of various natural phenomena connected with the state of the atmosphere at the surface and under ground, upon which, it is obvious, safety must ultimately depend. Every possible exertion should be made, every effort employed to bring the workmen acquainted with their individual responsibilities, and those theories and principles, both as regards the lamps and proper ventilation, upon the observance of which their personal existence and that of their comrades are at stake.

In conclusion, your Committee regret that the results of this inquiry have not enabled them to lay before the House any particular plan by which the accidents in question may be avoided with certainty, and in consequence no decisive recommendations are offered. They anticipate great advantages to the public and to humanity, from the circulation of the mass of valuable evidence they have collected. They feel assured that science will avail itself of the information, if not for the first time obtained, yet now prominently exhibited; and that the parties for whose more immediate advantage the British Parliament undertook the inquiry, will not hesitate to place a generous construction on the motives and intentions of the Legislature.

PARY'S MOUNTAIN, ISLAND OF ANGLESEY.

There is an ore still found in abundance in Pary's Mine, which consists of a compound sulphure of copper, zinc and lead, called by the Welsh miners *carreglas*, (blue stone) that seems to have been but little noticed by writers on the productions of this interesting mining district. It lay on the top of nearly all the great bunches of copper ore, which were from time to time worked there, close to the surface of the ground, and, having been acted upon by the atmospheric changes of our variable climate, during the course of ages, the sulphates of copper and zinc were in many places, carried off in solution by rain water, leaving the sulphate of lead, which is insoluble in water, in a layer behind, to the depth of two or three feet from the surface, having the appearance of a dull grey clay. Of this clay lead ore large quantities were sold by the proprietors of Pary's Mine about the year 1786; and of the silver extracted from it there were some pocket-piece coins struck off, in imitation of Pary's Mine druid head copper pence then coined. Now that a new and more effectual process for desilvering lead has been discovered, it is probable that the silver which this lead contains may be made available. The late Mr. Samuel Lucas, of Sheffield, purchased several cargoes of it, which he conveyed round by sea from Amlwch to Hull, and thence to Sheffield, where he smelted it for the silver it contained. Some of the same ore when fresh broken from the hole has also been calcined, and its solution in water boiled down for sulphate of zinc at the vitriol works, near the mines at Amlwch, for a series of years, but this is likewise done upon so small a scale compared with the magnitude of the supplies which these mines have yielded, that it is scarcely worth mentioning. In short the ore has only been considered valuable for the copper it contained, which generally is small in proportion to its zinc and lead. In zinc it is very rich indeed. And surely when this metal is become so useful for sheathing and other purposes, which a few years ago were not thought of, so rich an ore of zinc will not be longer thrown away into the waste heaps. There is an ore very much resembling it in external appearance at Connore, in the county of Wicklow. There were two samples of Pary's Mine clay lead ore in 1824, tested with great care by a silver refiner, one of which produced 65 ounces of silver in 20 cwt. of lead, or 1.518, and the other 56 ounces in 20 cwt. of lead, equal to 1.610. The following extract from the *Quarterly Mining Review*, page 393, under the head of "Gambona on Amalgamation," will enable the reader to form some estimate of its value for silver.

"In Mexico the average produce of the silver ores reduced is not more than from three to four ounces of silver per quintal, or the 400th or 500th part of the weight, but of these the great bulk must necessarily contain much less than the above proportion. It may be stated generally, that ores of seven mares per merton, or containing less than the 850th part of their bulk of silver may be worked in Mexico with a profit."

A letter, dated November 30, 1807, written by the celebrated Sir John Wynne, of Gwydir, shows that the mineral water of Pary's mountain was not unknown then. It is addressed to "The Right Honourable Lord Eure, President of Wales, and Lieutenant of the same, touching minerals."

"Supposing my verie good Lord that the sending of the mineral water of Anglesey unto you to be tried, mentioned in my last letter, myght yeild you further content and satisfaction, I have procured you two bottles fulls of the same, which I send you by this bearer. He that carried your Lordship's letter to me was in such a hurr and hast to return, and so late to carrie anie thing, that worried both with his repynings and clamour I dismaysed him with the ore, else I had sent with him the water also, and to amend the matter he carried with him the bottle, which did put me to some business to procure other bottles. Calling to my better remembrance what I saw when Medley made the tryal before Sir Henry Sidney, I have layde down the particularities in form following. First, quantytie of iron was beaten small into powder, which was put into the water in a great boyler of lead, whereof there were

either half a dozen or more, anie of which boylers having flat bottomes, and not verie deep, not unlike a cooler, did containe manie barrels of licker, beinge that water which being boyled with an exceeding hot fire in that water a threefold substaunce, the one copperas beinge green highest. The second allume, being whyte in the middle, and the third, called the earth of iron, beinge yellowe in the bottom. The allume and copperas seemed both to be perfect good. The earth of the iron, after it was fullie dried, grewe to a substance lyke the rust of iron which had long beene canckred, yet yellowe in colour. Of this earth of iron I have a great quantytie layde upon charcoal, in a bryke fornace, and blywen downe, and smelted like lead. Downe came a great quantytie of iron sunders intermingled here and there with copper. The tenth part of that which came downe proved not to be coppore, whereof part was sent to the Lords of Counsell that were adventurers in the worke, probably to other of the nobilitie, and every gentleman of qualite there present, and probably to carrie in his pockete, who were of opinion that the worke would not quite pay cost, and soe it proved, for that in a while it was given over. Wishing your Lordship good successe in all your attempts, and speciallie in these your alecymall conclusion, do rest your verie assured, and at comm.

JOHN WYNNE."

At the period this letter was written zinc was unknown as a metal in Europe, and it is very evident that Sir John Wynne mistook the sulphate of zinc, obtained by the process which he described, for allum.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Dec. 2.—Mr. LVELL, President, in the chair.—Two letters, addressed to Capt. Belcher, R.N., were first read, and referred to the question whether the earthquake on the coast of Chili, in Nov. 1822, produced any change in the relative level of land and sea. One of these letters from Lieut. Bowers, R.N., stated that the writer did not notice any change, though he was at Valparaiso in the beginning of 1822, and in February, 1823. Mr. Cuming, the writer of the other letter, resided at Valparaiso at the period of the earthquake, and for several years afterwards; and as he devoted much of his time to the collecting of shells and other subjects of Natural History, he had abundant opportunities for noticing if any alteration had taken place in the level of the land or sea. He says, that he never observed the least change; that at spring tides the water rose to the same height as it did previously to the earthquake; that a small detached rock opposite the Estanco, half way between the custom-house and the market-place, and from which he had often procured shells, retained its position after the earthquake; and that nautical men had affirmed there was not the least difference in the depth of the water in any part of the bay. A paper, by Mr. Parish, Sec. G. S., was next read, containing historical notices of the effects of the earthquake waves on the coast of the Pacific; and it appears from these documents, that tumultuous inundations of the sea accompanied many of the earthquakes which have desolated the western coast of South America since the year 1590.

The next meeting of this society takes place on the 16th instant.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

The third weekly meeting was held on the 3d inst. H. Hallam, Esq., V., F. in the chair. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, the certificates of candidates for admission, &c. John Gough Nichols, Esq., and — Hare, Esq., were ballotted for, and admitted fellows of the society. H. Booth, Esq., exhibited a curious pipe, formed of native stone, and ornamented with very elaborate carving, brought to England by Captain Back, R.N. A letter was read from — Power, Esq., accompanying some ancient painted tiles, from Rossington, near Doncaster. The secretary also read a continuation of Mr. Repton's paper on female head-dresses, from the time of Henry the Eighth to the middle of the last century, with which the proceedings of the society concluded for the evening.

LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

This institution met on Wednesday, Dr. Clutterbuck, vice-president, in the chair. The number of members at the end of last quarter was 1,031, and the present number is 1,211. The finances are also flourishing; nearly £800, having been received during the last year, and nearly 700 remain in the hands of the bankers.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst. this association held their second meeting for the season, at their rooms, in Lincoln's-inn-fields. The attendance members, and visitors was very numerous. The secretary, George Mair, Esq., having announced several valuable donations of books to the institution, and the election of new members having been finished, the president, W. B. Clarke, Esq., read a paper on that mystic circle "Stonehenge," the origin and uses of which are still involved in the shades of high antiquity. The paper in question went upon a ground somewhat similar to that advanced by the late Dr. Stukeley, namely, that the outer circle of those immense blocks is composed of foreign white marble, but whether from the quarries of Carrara, Paros, or Pentelicus, has not been ascertained, and also that the inner circle of smaller stones is of greenish basalt, none of which exists in that district. This announcement excited considerable surprise, and probably will lead to experiments which will decide the important fact. Mr. Owen Jones afterwards read a discourse on the origin of architecture, especially in the eastern countries, where its existence is traceable up to a very remote period. He showed its intimate, or rather inseparable connexion with the peculiar religious opinions and rites of each people, modified as to its taste, arrangements, construction, and ornaments by the climate, soil, and materials at command. Of these he pointed out the remarkable differences in the various contemporary styles of the early ages, showing as examples the stupendous temples of Carnac and Luxor, in Upper Egypt, in which the paintings, still in good preservation, after a lapse of at least 3,000 years, display a character of high art which is truly surprising. He then described the paintings of "Kings offering Sacrifice," represented on the columns as you proceed up these temples; but on your return the representations of the deities only are visible. He also described the avenue to one of these temples, two miles in length, guarded by colossal sphinxes on both sides through its whole length. On the peculiarities of the Arabian architecture, Mr. Jones also dwelt at some length, showing that they originally derived their architectural forms from those of their tents, only modifying the structures to suit the solid materials of their permanent buildings. He gave many ingenious illustrations in support of his opinions. This he was very ingenious to do, from a long residence in those countries which have, with propriety, been called "the birthplace of the arts." An interesting paper was also read, relative to some experiments made by Mr. George Steiner upon the stones generally used for flooring; the stabs being 12 inches long, by 2½ inches broad, and 1 inch in thickness, and by which it appears, were laid flat on the hearings, 10 inches apart, and the weight suspended from the middle of each —

1st Green Moore and Yorkshire blue stone sustained a weight of

Ditto Ditto white stone 3 0 23

Caithness stones (Scotch) 7 2 17

Valentia (Irish) 7 3 3

Bangor slate (Wales) 17 0 12

By this it appears, that a piece of Welsh slate, one inch thick, is equal in strength to a piece of Yorkshire stone of six inches, or of the Caithness or Valentia of two inches in thickness.

MR. PETER NICHOLSON.

To practical science, as connected with architecture and engineering, no individual in this country has more largely contributed than Mr. Peter Nicholson, the author of the "Architectural Dictionary," and numerous other works, comprising the most useful and important details in the various branches of mechanical science. Mr. N. has been for some time past engaged on a new Treatise on Projection, which, we are informed, will be by far the most complete elucidation of that subject which has yet appeared. The great utility of a practical work on mechanical drawing to the architect, the engineer, and to all who are employed in the construction of buildings, is obvious; and Mr. Nicholson's new and very ingenious methods for effecting a clear and striking delineation of objects cannot fail to be highly interesting and valuable. This talented and much respected gentleman has for some time past been resident in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where we are

glad to find that his private worth and mathematical talents are held in the estimation which they so eminently deserve. Mr. Nicholson has been in mechanical and architectural literature, on architecture, mechanics, algebra, differential calculus, conic sections, trigonometry, the doctrine of curves, perspective, and dialling, what, we should say, Sir Walter Scott was in a more fascinating kind of composition; but, like that eminent and estimable man, Mr. Nicholson, at the eve of a laborious life devoted to science, has not reaped the pecuniary recompence to which he is so much entitled. The value of his works must be appreciated by most of the readers of this journal; and we are happy to learn that while his own energies are still actively devoted to science, the exertions of his friends are directed to the very laudable object of endeavouring to obtain for him the patronage of government, as one whose labours have been of national utility.

SHODING AND COSTEANING.

These are operations instituted for the discovery of veins (lodes), when the mineral contents of a spot are entirely unknown.

Shode Stones are partially rounded and apparently water-worn; they are found on or at very small depths below the surface; their mineralogical characters nearly resemble those of the contents of "lodes" in the vicinity, of which they are usually supposed to have been originally a portion, removed by diluvial action. As the "shode stones" in Cornwall usually contain tin ore, they have been carefully collected; and as but few more remain in the mining districts, it is probable that the branch of the art will be entirely relinquished. The examiner usually commenced his survey in a spot of small elevation, where deluvium was abundant; and it need but little practice to detect shodes; he then ascended the hills, in his progress carefully seeking similar stones; which, as he advanced, were more abundant, and at length traced them to a lode whence he concluded they had been originally torn.

"Costeanning" proceeds on the general assumption that the lodes in a district are usually parallel to one another. Suppose it is assumed that this direction is east and west, or thereabout, the operators commence by sinking a pit through the soil, and to a small depth on the rock; the chances are many against their finding a lode at once, and supposing they do not, the next step is to drive from the pit a short distance north and south; by this it is possible that they may "cut the hole." But imagine them still unsuccessful, they remove a few fathoms north of the first pit, and repeat a similar series of operations, either until they have discovered the lodes they sought, become desponding, or cover the whole spot of ground on which they have permission to search.

Shoding and Costeanning have been practised in almost every mine; the lode in Huel Rose lead mine, in the parish of Newgol, in Cornwall, was cut by a husbandman in digging a drain, and that of Godolpah, in the parish of Breage, by "Tin Streamers," persons extracting tin ore from the gravel commonly considered diluvial, which abounds in many parts of Cornwall and Devon.—*Mining Review*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Union Gold Mining Company.—The Advertisement of a Call of £1,200 per Share, payable on the 5th of January next, did not come in time for insertion this week; it shall appear in our next.

The Foreign Mining Correspondence, and other pressing matter, has compelled us to omit several Advertisements; while we may observe it is our intention to confine our columns to Advertisements of Public Companies, and subjects connected with Mining.

Liverpool Prices.—These we have been obliged to omit this week, but it is of less importance, as the prices remain much the same, except in Railway Shares, which are lower. We have received several communications on the subject of some *Mining Shares* lately introduced in that market, on which we shall have a word to say next week—mean while we advise our Friends to be cautious.

Wheat Tidings, and *De Dunstanville* next week.

C. C's Letter shall appear in our next.

Prices of Shares.—In accordance with the suggestions of several Subscribers, we shall endeavour to furnish a perfect list of the Prices at Manchester and Birmingham, in addition to our Liverpool List.

We found Captain Joe in the full enjoyment of his "Broth" at the Bull and Mouth, where we were obliged to leave him; we shall however look in upon him this evening and next Saturday—and on an early occasion introduce his friend "Sober John"."

THE MINING JOURNAL AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

LONDON, December 5, 1835.

The correspondence of the United Mexican Mining Association, (some extracts from which are inserted in our present Number), will, doubtless, attract the attention of all who are embarked in mining pursuits, but more particularly those who have invested their capital in working the mines of Mexico; especially when we reflect on the many hundred thousand pounds embarked in undertakings which, however, unsuccessful to the English capitalist, must necessarily have been productive of much benefit to the Republic of Mexico from the introduction of capital and the employment of natives, as well as giving an impetus to enterprise in working the mines. We have before had occasion to remark on the want of principle of the Mexican authorities, and the difficulty of obtaining justice, whether as parties aggrieved, making the application to the legal courts of Mexico, or as proceeded against as in the Rayas case, where the Judge allows interested motives to interrupt the course of justice, if such word is to be found in the Mexican vocabulary.

The following extract from Mr. O'Gorman's correspondence, will, we think, form subject matter for reflection, not only for those embarked in the Mexican Mines, but as involving a question to which our Government is, as we contend, bound to direct its attention; and we shall, having done our duty in bringing the subject before the Public, content ourselves in the present instance, by recommending the English capitalist to embark his money at home,—to encourage English industry and enterprise,—not to be deceived, whether by the projections of the interested, or the faithless promises of Governments abroad, to seek for the El Dorado, on foreign shores, with the certain prospect of forced loans, excessive exactions, and general want of probity while the resources of England are daily developing themselves.

"We have alleged grievances—the Mexicans deny this. Such a state of things as we originally complained of continues with unabated force to this day; that is, all our property is confiscated in Zacatecas without a legal sentence, without our citation, without a legal plaintiff, without our owing any party a single dollar, and we are denied redress by any Mexican authority. In our case one of *prima facie* oppression, or not? If so, we claim inquiry; and if what we allege prove to be true, we presume our government will do us the justice to compel the Mexicans to the observance of treaties—that is, that we shall be protected from arbitrary power, and duly protected by the Mexican laws as they really exist, and not as the iniquitous Zacatecas judges pervert them, with a view to despoil us of our property."—*Mr. O'Gorman's Letter to the Directors*.

The Editor of the *Railway Gazette* seems this week to have got up his steam, and without regard to the safety-valve while working at a high pressure, has unintentionally allowed an escape which has brought him down to what is termed a "slow coach." Our able and valued City correspondent has, we think, so completely refuted the charge, that we ought not to have entered on the subject. However, one word for ourselves, and we feel assured our contemporary, whose success we shall be happy to congratulate him upon, will take our observations in good part.

Agreeing with our Correspondent, that the extract from the *Mining Journal*, on railways, into the columns of the *Railway Gazette*, was a compliment paid us, we would submit to

our contemporary, that this very circumstance has elicited the observation in more than one quarter of surprise that the *Mining Journal*, (which since the publication of the *Railway Gazette* has, with the exception of the City article, excluded "railway gleanings," and then only adverted to them with reference to the market,) should possess the means of affording information to the readers of the *Railway Gazette*. We are, however, happy to have afforded the Editor a subject for a leader, and what better subject could he have than the *Mining Journal*.

THE FUNDS.

CITY.—FRIDAY EVENING.

The British Stock market remains, as usual, nearly inanimate. In the course of this week, however, Consols declined at one time to about 91, and left off this evening at 91½ for the January account. Exchequer Bills and East India Bonds are also somewhat lower, the former closed to-day 12, 14, and the latter 2, 4.

The Commissioners of West India claims made their final purchase of Consols, (£160,000) previously to the shutting on Tuesday. The intention of keeping the Bank open for transfers, with a view of facilitating these investments up to the 20th of December, has been abandoned, because a similar permission must have been extended to the public generally.

Loans of money, on the deposit of Stock, until the opening in January, were obtained at an easy rate of interest. A steady, although not extensive demand for money stock having existed on the part of the public, up to the shutting of Consols and 3½ per cent.

The following appear to be the causes which have concurred this week in producing the want of firmness in the prices of British Funds, viz. The approach of the close of the year, which generally causes some extraordinary demand for money in the home markets, and the gradual decline which has taken place in French 3 per cents. from 81½ to 80½, caused by the extensive naval armament preparing in the French ports. To these causes may be added a sort of remote impression upon prices produced by the menacing articles against Russia, which continue to appear in the semi-official English and French journals, and the public meeting of the exiled Poles at Paris, which seems to have been sanctioned by the French government, inasmuch as their police offered no obstruction.

Prices being already high, it is scarcely matter of wonder that Consols, under these circumstances, should lose their firmness; if there be no fall of 2 or 3 per cent, it will be owing to the prevailing opinion, that although there may be much paper skirmishing with Russia, and a considerable show of force against the United States, there is but little probability that any of the parties will come into actual collision.—Should the causes now afloat produce any considerable fall in the prices of French and Continental and American funds, our own can scarcely remain unaffected, and the more so, because it seems probable that in case the naval forces of two or three powers are arranged against each other to any extent, the British Government must also equip a fleet of some 10 or 15 line-of-battle ships—spectators though we be, we have vast and scattered colonial and commercial interests at stake, and it will seem but a reasonable precaution if a vote of 8,000 or 10,000 additional seamen is called for at the opening of Parliament.

During the week Spanish Bonds have again declined; at one time rather considerably, namely, on Tuesday or Wednesday, to 43½; since that time they have fluctuated between 44 and 45, and close this evening at 44½, with an appearance of considerable heaviness.

The quotations here would have fallen to 43 or below, but for the steady purchases made in this market for some days past, for account of Amsterdam, Frankfort, and Hamburg, where, and in Paris and Madrid, the prices are higher than in London. The heaviness here is caused not so much by the pressure of any quantity of Bonds either on the account day on Monday, as was previously apprehended, or at any subsequent time, but is to be attributed to general causes, and also to the quantities of arms and stores now in course of shipment from English ports in aid of the Carlist party.

Considerable vapouring accompanies these shipments; the agents stating that the Carlist army in Navarre consists of about 25,000 men, well armed, equipped, and paid; that they will not be allowed to want either money or supplies; that immediately upon the capture of any considerable town or fortress, political agents will be sent to the court of Don Carlos, duly qualified by the northern powers, and that in the mean time the French king, in total disregard to the quadruple treaty, is, at this moment, a most efficient ally to the cause of Don Carlos.

To these arguments the Spanish liberals resident here reply, that if Don Carlos could effect nothing, while the Queen's government was weak or treacherous; the case is worse than ever, now that Spain beyond the Ebro is tranquil and united; that the Agents of Don Carlos have been for six months past talking of capturing a fortress, but that in fact he effects nothing; and that as to the supplies now in course of shipment, the greater portion will most probably be captured by the British vessels of war, on the Spanish station.

The intelligence received from Madrid during the week is, that the Queen's speech to the Cortes is before a Committee of the Chamber. It is fully believed they will manifest the confidence of the Chamber of the Nation, in the present Spanish Ministry, by reporting an answer in conformity with the speech; in short, that the address to the crown will be carried (as our parliamentary phrase is) by a large majority.

Owing to the late changes in the Portuguese Ministry, especially by the elevation of M'Campos to the post of minister of finance, Vice Carvalho, Portuguese Bonds have again declined, and close this evening, 5 per cents. 84½; 3 per cents. 54½.

It is still confidently maintained that this change has not been produced by the intrigues of the French or Russian party, or by any re-action of the ousted Friars. Confidence in the Portuguese Funds has, however, abated from other causes: first it is rumoured that Altilia, the crown and caravans have been disposed of pretty freely, and on moderate terms, yet that future purchasers will be much discouraged by the imposition which appears to have taken place of a 5 per cent. stamp duty on conveyances; and secondly, that the government will not accept more than one-tenth of the value of the lands in bonds of the Foreign Debt; lastly, there seems some apprehensions that although the change of Government from narrow and absolute, to liberal and constitutional, looks well on paper, yet that in practice the old customs prevail of referring every thing to influence about the Court.

There is a rumour this evening that Lord William Bentinck is going to Lisbon on a special embassy relating to the inspection of the quadruple treaty of Portugal, in not sending her contingent of 10,000 men to aid the constitutional cause in Spain.

All the remaining Foreign Bonds appear to stagnate at a kind of fixed price. They have, however, subsided somewhat, although in a degree hardly perceptible in sympathy with Consols.

Mexican 6 per cents. have become rather firmer, apparently on the expectation that the system of government introduced by Santa Anna, although bad in theory, and necessarily liable to be reversed whenever the body of the people become intelligent, that is, in two or three generations hence, it is probably the only form of rule now practicable in that country. Considering the narrow and bigoted maxims of their late Spanish masters, and the utter ignorance of the mass of the people, both positively and relatively, as to the theory and practice of constitutional government, it seems probable that the best mode of restoring order may be to substitute force and centralism in lieu of federalism and the governments of separate states. If force is accompanied by any degree of honesty and patriotism in the rulers proportionate to the tranquil enjoyment of more complete and settled authority, it may turn out that this is, in fact, the stage through which these states must necessarily pass before their increased intelligence can qualify them for representative and constitutional government.

The markets for Railway Shares continue as dull and inanimate as they were last week; and the prices of several, among which are some of those already established by Act of Parliament, have undergone a still further depression. The Shares in duplicate lines, the Directors of which are believed to be preparing for expensive contests in Parliament, continue of course at a discount, with the exception of Stephenson's Brighton, the prices of which have been merely nominal since the commencement.

The general depression of the prices of Railway Shares is, in fact, the most wholesome symptom which has been observed in that market

since the absurdities and extravagance by which these speculations have been since distinguished. From present appearances it may be anticipated that a vast number of empty projects, either merely advertised or just on the point of appearing, will be extinguished or returned upon the projectors; and it is to be hoped they will occupy themselves with careful survey, in order to qualify the plans for public support.

Many reflections to which, during the noise and confusion of the halloo mania, little or no attention was paid, are now making some progress in the public mind during the useful, and to some people rather gloomy, pause which is now taking the place of over-excitement. For example—they begin to reflect that if all the Rail Road Bills for which notices of application to Parliament have been advertised, could be granted either in 1836 or 1837, which, luckily for the whole mass of projectors and speculators, is physically and otherwise impracticable; that this fatal permission to begin the works could raise the cost and charges of every article required, whether labour, materials, or the science and knowledge of the professional man, in a ratio which has not been duly estimated. In undertaking too great a quantity of excavation or embankments at one time, under the 50 lines projected; it might happen either that the labour of excavators and the workmen of a higher class usually employed on public works could not be found, or that the wages might be exorbitantly raised. The iron and stone work, such as rails, chairs, sleepers, &c., to say nothing of the locomotives and their conducting engineers, could hardly be supplied fast enough or they would be furnished at much higher prices, and as each company seeks to employ a civil engineer of established reputation, it is highly probable that fatal and expensive errors would be committed in the execution of the works, owing to the excess of engagements and calculations pressing upon the engineers. Again, if the many lines, and too great a mass of public works are undertaken at one time, the requisite capital would not be forthcoming, or if contributed, it might be so indusively and slowly as to submit very many of the undertakings, to the serious losses which result in public works so situated, both in the accumulation of compound interest against them, the loss of the revenue which ought to be forthcoming, and the deterioration of the works themselves, while the supplies of money are delayed.

Indispensable as the railway system is become for the conveyance of passengers, bale goods, groceries, cattle, &c.; late as we are in the field, and advanced as America is, it is indispensable that the task be entered upon with caution and determination. If we are to have enterprise and energy well applied, some ordinary precautions must be taken lest we fall by a distraction of our minds and means between 100 projects, when 10 or 12 are as much or more than we can carry into effect.

The prices of the leading rail-road shares close this evening as follows, viz.—

Birmingham	£46	47	premium.
Brighton (Stephenson's)	2½	3	ditto nominal.
Ditto (Gibbs's)	4		ditto.
Blackwall	1½	2	premium.
Croydon	4		ditto.
Gravesend and Dover	4		par.
Greenwich	£20	6	½ prem.
Gravesend	£20		ditto.
Grand Western	£100	64	7 premium.
North Midland	1	1	ditto.

The prices of the principal Funds and Securities close as follow, viz.—

BRITISH FUNDS.			
Consols, Jan. Account	91½	4	
Exch. Bills, 12s. 14s. pm.			
East India Bonds, 2s. 4s. pm.			
FOREIGN FUNDS.			
Belgian 5 pr. Ct. 100 4			Dutch 5 do. 100 ½
Brazil 5 do. 83 ½ 84 4			Portuguese 5 pr. Ct. 84 ½
Danish 3 do. 76 4			Do. 3 do. 54 ½
Russian 5 do. 108 ½			Chili, 6 pr. Ct. 42 44
Dutch 2½ do. 54 ½ 55 4			Mexico, 6 pr. Ct. 37 4
			Colombia, 6 pr. Ct. 31 4
			Peru, 6 pr. Ct. 24 25
			Spanish, active, 5 do. 44 ½
			Do. passive, 13 4
			Do. deferred 22 ½ 4

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, 12 O'CLOCK.—Consols for account, 91½; Omnium, 31 ½ pm.; 3 per cent. reduced, 89½; Exchequer Bills, 13s. 15s.; East India Bonds, 2 4; Belgian 5 per Cents., 99½ 100 4; Portuguese 5 per Cents., 83 ½; Spanish 5 per Cents., 43 ½ 4; Deferred, 21½ 2; London and Birmingham Railway, 46 8 pm.; Greenwich, 54 6½ pm.; Great Western, 64 7 pm.; Brighton, 24 3 pm.; London and Westminster Bank, 4 ½ pm.

SWANSEA, Dec. 2.—Our sales this day consisted of 1,268 21 cwts., which produced £10,873 13s. 6d. Nearly 4-5ths of the ores sold were from the Irish mines. Cuba ores sold for £4,232 10s. 6d., averaging about £27 4s. per ton. The West Cork, which had been much talked of, sold 59 tons for £636 14s., much disappointing those who had calculated on its produce, the ores having been, as I learn, insured for £1,000.

REDRUTH.—The communication of our Redruth correspondent will be found with the table of sale of ores.

COPPER AND TIN.

Native copper is by no means uncommon, being found more or less in most copper mines; it occurs in large amorphous masses, in some parts of America, and is sometimes met with in octohedral crystals, or in some of the forms allied to the octohedral. The copper of commerce is extracted chiefly from the native sulphurite; especially from copper pyrites, a double sulphuret of iron and copper. The first part of the process consists in roasting the ore, so as to burn off some of the sulphur, and leave the remainder as a subsulphate of the oxides of iron and copper. The mass is next heated with some unroasted ore, and siliceous substances, by which means much of the iron unites in the state of black oxide with silicic acid, and rises as a fusible slag to the surface, when most of the copper returns to the state of sulphurite. It is then subjected to long continued roasting, when the greater part of the sulphur escapes as sulphuric acid, and the metal is oxidized; after which it is reduced by charcoal, and more of the iron separated as a silicate by the addition of sand. Lastly, the metal is strongly heated, while a current of air plays upon its surface: the impurities, chiefly sulphur and iron, being more oxidizable than copper, combine with oxygen by preference, and the copper is at length left in a state of purity sufficient for the purposes of commerce.

The tin of commerce is distinguished into two varieties, called *block tin* and *grain tin*, both of which are obtained from the native oxide by means of heat and charcoal. In Cornwall, which has been celebrated for its tin mines during many centuries, the ore is both extracted from veins, and found in the form of rounded grains among beds of rolled materials, which have been deposited by the action of the water. These grains, commonly called *stream tin*, contain a very pure oxide, and yield the purest kind of grain tin. An inferior sort is prepared by heating bars of tin, extracted from the common ore, to very near their point of fusion, when the more fusible parts, which are the purest, flow out, and the less fusible portions constitute block tin. The usual impurities are iron, copper, and arsenic.—*Taylor's Chemistry*.

SILVER MINES.

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

BISSEOE BRIDGE MINING ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Company was held at the George and Vulture Tavern, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, on Thursday, the 26th ultimo, pursuant to advertisement.

MR. ROBERT HICHENS in the Chair.

The Chairman read the Report; after which, some desultory conversation took place upon the prospects of the Company, which seemed to give general satisfaction to the Proprietors present, who, as we understood, represented upwards of three-fourths of the Shares.

On moving that the Report be received, Mr. Labouchere expressed great satisfaction at the prospects of the mine, adding, that he placed the fullest confidence in the great skill and persevering exertions of Mr. Carne, the Director, whom he had long known as a gentleman of the highest character and honour.

The Report was ordered to be printed; and thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting was adjourned.

From the very heavy press of matter we are unable to give the REPORT at length. However, the following will be found a correct, although a condensed statement of its contents:—

The Directors stated that they had paid to the original holders for sums expended in driving adits, and sinking shafts, £2,500, and the company was then in possession of the mines. That the two first instalments of £1 each had been paid into the hands of the bankers (with the exception of £30) the third instalment being postponed to the 3rd of January next); and after deducting the various sums mentioned in the subjoined account, there remained a disposable balance in the hands of the company to the amount £3657 4s. 8d. At Bissoe Bridge, the adit taken up by the former proprietors had been continued south; that 4 large lodes had been intersected, on one of which a tin lode of nearly 6 feet in width, levels to very considerable extent had been opened, and that 18 miners were employed.

That a shaft had been sunk under the adit, to the depth of 6 fathoms, by means of a horse machine at this point, that the lode was improved in appearance, equally large, and not underlaying so fast as at the adit—that it was intended to erect a wheel of sufficient power to work 10 or 12 stamp heads, and at the same time to draw the water to the depth of 20 fathoms under the adit, from a large and promising lode in the valley ranging from 10 to 12 feet in width, which had been seen at a depth of 9 feet only, and consists of one vast body of mudi, with tin scattered through it. The operations of *Wheal Clifton* had been confined to clearing and repairing old shafts and adits, and driving a level south to intersect some lodes, one of which had been cut at about 12 fathoms from surface, and contained manganese and iron with a portion of copper. That as the proprietors of the North Consols Mine had determined to draw the water from the extreme western part of their mine which adjoins Wheal Clifton, there could be no doubt the water must be drained from the latter in the course of two or three months, and although the extent of the former workings was uncertain, there was little doubt that the engine shaft had been sunk to the 30 fathom level; that soon after the formation of the company, the water was drawn off *Rose on Vale Mine*, by means of horses, to the depth of 10 fathoms, and some fine stones of lead and copper were taken from the lode at that level; the directors saw no reason for altering the opinion embodied in the prospectus issued by them in March last, respecting the prospects of the mine generally; but, on the contrary, felt every confidence in the ultimate result of the adventure; and that it only required a short time to bring the whole into active and profitable operation. The report was signed by

R. HICHENS, W. CARNE, ROBT. COTESWORTH

The following is an abstract of the account submitted to the meeting.

Receipts & Expenditure from the formation of the Company to the end of Oct. 1835.

Dr.	RECEIPTS.
Purchase money of Mines £2,500 0 0	
Bissoe Bridge monthly cost from April to Oct. inclusive	509 4 2
Wheal Clifton, ditto	450 0 7
Rose in Vale ditto	518 2 4
Salaries, stationery, &c.	39 14 0
Mr. Johnson, assaying fees	5 5 0
Law Charges	12 12 0
ASSETS...	
£3,500 Exchequer bills, cost	£3,532 5 8
Cash at Banker's	104 19 0
	3657 4 8
	£7,982 11 6
	£7,982 11 6

EXTREME DANGER AND SURPRISING ESCAPE OF A MINER.

On Wednesday, the 18th of July, at 6 o'clock, a.m., two working miners, Pierre Menoret, aged 40, the father of five children, and Michael Fouroni, about 43, the father of nine children, descended into the well de la Peignezia, in the mines of Montrelas, in order to carry on the depth to 460 feet. About a quarter of an hour from the time they went down, the horses were suddenly stopped by some obstacle, which the whole power of their strength could not master. John Baptiste Robert ran off instantly to the mouth of the well, and perceiving the cord of the bell was entangled, he descended in haste by the ladder of ropes to 330 feet, and anxious to render assistance to his companions, seized the cable, and let himself down by the run to nearly 400 feet. Here his course was obstructed, the embankment having broken into the well, and filled up the mouth. He called several times to the men, but to no purpose, for nobody answered. Ascending again to 330 feet from the top, he found that five other workmen (names mentioned) had gone down to the lowest level of the mine to a depth of 435 feet, where the gallery was also stopped by a falling in of the earth. They called loudly and often to their comrades, but no voice was returned. Fifty feet of rubbish now separated them that were living from those of their friends whose deaths were now looked on as certain. The workmen accordingly returned, greatly disengaged and sorrowful. However, prompt measures were used, and attempts made to dig out the unfortunate men from the rubbish; but a new eruption of the earth taking place, the miners declared that no motive whatever would induce them to continue their hazardous task. It was therefore given up. On Monday, the 22d of July, about seven o'clock in the evening, four days and a half after the accident, one of the workmen buried below (the younger one, Pierre Menoret,) was seen to issue from the well *de la Taupe*. To him we shall leave the recital of what befel him and his more unfortunate comrade, during that long and painful period.

"Hardly had we descended to the bottom of the well," said he, "than I removed a lath that I found in my way; this brought with it a large stone, which in its fall broke a short wooden frame to the west. Immediately we heard, my comrade and I, a terrible cracking and rumbling noise, when we threw ourselves on the east side, and in less than a second of time the earth had burst in and filled up the well. Michael Fouroni was thrown topsy turvy, with one of his legs under the tunnel, whilst I was doubled up below some wood, which supported the rubbish over my head. We both began to moan bitterly, and our first effort was to disengage Fouroni; but that was impossible, the tunnel pressed his leg with such force. Seated, he could scarcely make use of his hands; and as for myself, I could hardly stir under the wood that served to protect me. We heard noises over our heads, as if people were working; we made several efforts to make ourselves heard, but all to no purpose; then the cable was cut, and the footsteps seemed to retire. At length all was quiet, and we gave ourselves over for lost. Fouroni, who was almost bent double, felt the water gradually rise to his mouth; some groaning and murmurs escaped him; he would needs, he said, speak to his wife, some business was urgent—unsettled. 'As for you,' he continued, 'you cannot survive me very long; the water is flowing, and will soon reach to you; at least you have not your watch—your wife will have that; whilst mine, that's with me now. My children and wife! I can't give them that.'

The water meanwhile gained space—still higher and higher. He said a short prayer, breathed a sigh, and performed his last act of contrition, which I continued to repeat as long as I heard him. * * * As for me, the water had not reached my knees. Sometimes I bewailed my hard fate, and sometimes addressed myself to the Deity; then I used all my force to break through the wood that pressed heavily on me, and now drank some of the water, crushed up as I was, which I reached close from the head of my comrade. The water continued to flow; I felt it rise to my breast—it never rose higher. I must have been below in the well for more than three days. I remembered I had a small gimlet in my

pocket, and with this I made a hole in the wood over my head; when I was tired of turning with one hand, I turned with the other; then I stopped to bemoan or to pray, and then over again the same thing. I made holes without number for a great space of time, the whole of one day perhaps, and at length I succeeded in breaking the board; then I detached some of the laths, and at last got myself clear between the earth and boarding of the well, on the side to the west. I stopped at every step, breaking away the laths as they came in my way, repeating a prayer and forcing myself through the hole I had made. I became so fatigued from exhaustion and effort, that they could hardly conceive by which way I had come. At the level of 433 feet I found the gallery stopped; with my hands I scratched more than 200 *acrotiles* of rubbish and earth, and then made my way to the chimney (*descendrie*). But there was no longer a ladder; it was necessary therefore to climb up the whole length of the lining and wood work (100 feet) in order to get to another chimney. In this passage I devoured two candles, and at last got to the aperture which leads to the wells of la Taupe, from which I was then only 226 feet from the top. But my strength was now gone, and I fell fast asleep. When I awoke I knew where I was, and all that had happened, and I made for the ladder of the wells of la Taupe. Day appearing, I was again obliged to take rest, for the light dazzled my eyesight and impeded my progress; at last I succeeded in getting out of the mine."

Thus on quitting these regions of horror did Pierre Menoret recount his adventure to his companions. He felt no pain nor even fatigue, and could be hardly prevailed on to go to his bed. The first night he slept ill, the second had been better, and it is hoped that by kind and assiduous care he may be long spared to his wife and children, who for some days had mourned him as dead. Fouroni has left a widow, charged with the bringing up of nine children. To them he could not even leave his watch, their sole inheritance perhaps.

F. E.

the tin lode, at present small, not rich. The lode in the 23 fathom level, east of the engine shaft, is about 4 feet wide, producing tin ore. In the 12 fathom level, east, is about 3 feet wide, producing tin ore. In the 13 fathom level, west of the engine shaft, we intend to rise on the lode against Cock's shaft; the lode on this level is about 3 feet wide, producing a small quantity of copper ore. In the adit level, east of Gooding's shaft, the lode is about 1½ feet wide, at present poor. We are continuing to sink Gooding's and Cock's shafts under the adit level; likewise are rising on the back of the 12 fathom level against Gooding's shaft. At Bucket's, we have set to drive the adit level, west of Ashton's shaft, on the branch which is producing a small quantity of copper ore.

R. GOLDSWORTHY.

NORTH CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY, Nov. 30, 1835.—The engine shaft is down 12 fathoms under the 30, and driving south to cut the great lode; we expect we have about 5 fathoms to drive, and hope to do it about the end of the year. The 30 fathom level still driving north to cut the caunter lode; if the lode's underlay continues as we see in the adit, probably we have 8 or 10 feet to cut it, it may be a little more or less. The 50 fathom level still driving north to cut the caunter lode; we expect to have about 5 fathoms to drive. The 20 fathom level east the lode is large, no alteration for the better, but near to half to Tomkin's shaft, then we shall commence driving eastward under some ground that had formerly produced some fine lead and copper. The 20 fathom level north, this last month we have been driving on a branch, and we are not satisfied that we have cut the caunter lode. We have set to drive north, as you see on our setting day's report. We are clearing and repairing the shafts in the western part of the mine, as fast as time will allow us to do, but still we will use every exertion as far as lies in our power to complete it in the shortest time possible. You see from the reports that we have suspended all the tutwork we can until the flat rods go to work. We have 4 men working on tribute at Little White shaft, at 12s. in the pound, at this time doing well. All other transactions are, as you see, on our setting day's report.

BRITISH COPPER MINING COMPANY, Dec. 2, 1835.—I expect we shall be able to sample 200 tons of ores on the 22d instant; quality equal if not superior to the ores we last sold; but this paragraph is given a little too premature. The appearances of the mine are much the same as last week.

J. STEPHENS.

ENGLISH MIXING COMPANY, Dec. 1, 1835.—Accompanying you have the setting reports of both mines for the month of December, to which I must beg to refer you for the present state of our underground operations. The appearances of the several levels are not on the whole so favourable as one would wish. You will observe, that although the two 10 fathom level ends are suspended in consequence of the injunction, yet no diminution in the number of our tutwork men has taken place; the men employed in those levels having been placed elsewhere. In some of the pitches, both of St. George and Wheal Prudence, a greater rise has taken place in the tributes than in the early part of the past month we were at all led to expect would have been the case; changes, however, for the better may again take place.

EAST CORNWALL SILVER MINING COMPANY,—*Callington*, Nov. 30, 1835.—Our monthly setting being on Saturday last, we set the following bargains, viz.:—*Wheal Virgin*. Adit level to drive west by 4 men, at 50s. per fathom: the lode in the east end is 5 feet big, of a more promising nature than any thing seen heretofore. The rise above this level by 2 men continues good saving work for silver, from 8 to 10 inches wide.—*Wheal David*. Adit level west, by 6 men, at 25s. per fathom: here we have a lode 4 feet wide, with a leader of lead, iron, mudi, &c. 7 inches big, good saving work for silver, with very strong appearances of improvement.—*Wheal Georgiana*. Adit level east, by 4 men, at 40s. per fathom; the lode is 18 inches big with silver; but the leader does not continue so rich as in my last report.—*Wheal Emily*. Adit level west, by 6 men, at 60s. per fathom: a lode from 7 to 8 inches big, by no means unkindly, with silver, but not worth saving.—*Wheal Moses*.

In this adit we are so far advanced from the shaft, and the air both in this end and the rise above it, is so bad that we are obliged to discontinue these works until our shaft is sunk through, on which we shall put 6 men to work this week to put down a perpendicular. The lode looks promising in this part, and, I have no doubt, will prove an important part of the company's property. The castings, per the last vessel from Hoyle, are all brought on the mine, and most of them fixed in the engine house. We are progressing rapidly day and night in this department; and have only to rely on Messrs. Harvey and Co. in furnishing us with the balance of the machinery so as to be in full operation early in January.

FOREIGN MINES.

BRITISH TIN MINING COMPANY, Nov. 30, 1835.—With great pleasure I inform you our engine shaft is sunk 12 fathoms below the adit level, and I hope by Wednesday we shall have sunk 3 feet for the fork (or dipper). The ground at the bottom of the shaft is the most promising I have hitherto seen on the mine. By Thursday I hope we shall begin to drive to the lodes, and should the ground continue with such flattering indications, before Christmas day I hope you will have them pronounced productive; and my opinion is in unison with several other practical miners. We shall only have to drive from 16 to 18 feet before we cut one of the branches, and some 4 fathoms to the north lode. It is a source of pleasure to reflect that we are so near the north and south lodes. The branches which we have had in the shaft, and the sump for which £75. of tin was taken up in about 2 fathoms long, and 3 fathoms in depth, being only 14 fathoms distant, cannot fail to exhilirate us at this moment. The tribute pates are looking well, the stream is very flattering. R. R. GOON.

NEW SOUTH HOPE MINING COMPANY,—*Tavistock*, Nov. 29, 1835.—The deep adit still continues being driven in favourable ground towards the copper lode, which I shall reach much sooner than was at first calculated on, owing to the unexpected easy character of the strata through which it has been, and is now being worked. The lode in this level is in appearance precisely what it was when first reported, regular but small, and as yet not worth saving, but from the appearances certainly as good as could reasonably be expected. In the 10 fathom level, as also the shallow adit level, the copper lode wears pretty much the same appearance as it has for some weeks past: great progress has been made in these two levels, the ground having proved much more favorable than was expected. Our mine altogether is somewhat improved, and hoping that when our 10 fathom level and shallow adit intersects the South Hope lode, which they are approaching, I shall have to communicate a good discovery.

J. HITCHENS.

EAST WHEAL STRAWBERRY MINING COMPANY, Nov. 30, 1835.—A necessary and usual alteration in the pitwork of Grout's engine shaft has delayed the sinking it during the last week; we have, however, resumed it to day. The sinking of Grout's whim shaft, and the extension of the 15 fathom level south, are continuing as stated to you last week.

W. PETERBICK.

SOUTH WHEAL LEISURE MINING COMPANY, Nov. 29, 1835.—I have much pleasure in observing that we continue to advance in sinking our engine shaft in every respect with success, the ground being favourable, and the water very moderate; we are now below adit about 26 feet. On Monday next we intend to set the building of the walls of the engine-house, and sundry other necessary surface work, carriage, &c. &c.

R. ROWE, jun.

NORTH CORNWALL MINING COMPANY,—*Wheal Thomas*, Nov. 28, 1835.—The lode of the 8 fathom east for the last few days has not been quite so good as at last report, the run of lead appears to dip east; there is a very good lode gone down to the bottom of the end, which looks very favourable for the next level. I expect to set a pitch in the back of the 8 fathom level next Saturday, on the lead that is discovered, which is about 4 fathoms long. The last pitch, noticed in our last report, we have discontinued working. The first pitch that was set goes on very well, we are now dressing the lead; the lead raised last month from this pitch will make nearly 15 tons, the rest will be raised in the course of a few days. The 8 fathom level west still remains without alteration; the men in the shaft, by blasting a hole, did a small injury to the lift, and we are now about putting down a large one, which will draw the water for a considerable time. *Wheal Hope* adit end is driving to cut the north part of the lode, ground hard at present. I have been through the 12 fathom level, which is standing almost secure, we having put a trifling repair. I think it advisable to drive this end eastward; likewise I have been almost to the end of the 20 fathom level: two or three days more will complete this level, we had more timber broke here than in the level above. The pump men have put in the cisterns and bearers, and nearly cut the ground for the plunger lift, which I hope we shall get ready in a few days.

JNO. BOWLER.

REDRUTH UNITED MINING COMPANY, Nov. 30, 1835.—The lode in the engine shaft is about 2½ feet wide, not rich. The lode in the 32 fathom level, east of the engine shaft, is about 4 feet wide, producing tin ore. In the 32 fathom level, west of the engine shaft, we are driving on

D. FLOREY.

Sept. 15, 1835.—It is with great pleasure that we have seen this morning the Guadalupe engine at work again, after having replaced all the pit work, and timbered the greatest part of the shaft. When the engine went to work, the water was 80 varas below the adit in Guadalupe, and 87 varas from the collar of the shaft in Cacina. I estimate the real loss of time by this accident to be about two months, as we have been making great many repairs, which at different times would have taken two months. It will now take six weeks longer to drain the mine to the bottom of Cacina; this is certainly an additional loss of time, which will be employed in other useful works. The new shaft of San José is now within 30 varas of the depth at which we proposed to drive the cross-cut. It is possible that our original plan may suffer some alteration; and we are now discussing whether it would not be better to drive a cross-cut at the present depth, which would relieve the water in Cacina and Corregida, and instead of driving the 200 varas cross-cut, drive at 220 varas, which would leave 10 fathoms of ground below the old bottom of Barranco according to the section. There are some objections to this arrangement, and as soon as we determine upon which of the two plans we are to follow, we will have the liberty to inform you of it. The report and statement of Mr. Schuchardt, which will be sent from Vera Grande, will show you that now more than ever we have reason to expect some good bunches of ore in the high ground east of Taylor's shaft. The continuance to San Felipe, the daily improvement of Guadalupe and Cacina, are powerful reasons to entertain such a belief. The trial in the bottom of San Francisco Marca, I am happy to say, is proving favourable in the bottom of the winze as well as in the end east; we have good ores, but the water from the end has obliged us to abandon the place until we prepare means to take it out. The water has likewise compelled us to retire from San Antonio in the Tiro General; it is probable that it comes from the upper works of Palmillas, if so, it will decrease after the rainy season is over. Having purchased 500 quintals of copper (rough) at a moderate price, we intend making the greatest part of the pit-work of San José in the place; only a few things will be wanted from Europe, for which we will shortly send an order. Of the five men expected from England, the pitman and two supernumeraries are arrived from Relafon, the other two are still in San Luis, one of them having hurt himself with his own gun.

been able to coined all the silver belonging to the negotiation, we might have sent 60,000 dollars more, as the day the conducta left, we had in the mint silver to the amount of 84,000 dollars, besides 50 bars in the hacienda of Sáenz. This circumstance has disappointed me very much, as I fully intended to have sent 100,000 dollars. The next conducta will not, I expect, go before the beginning of November, unless we can send a private one: our next remittance, however, will not exceed 60 or 70,000 dollars.

D. FLORES.

Zacatecas, Sept. 17, 1835.—Extract of a Letter addressed by Mr. Henderson to the Secretary.—The conducta for Tampico left on the 9th instant; and in consequence of a breakage of the machinery in the mint, which prevented their payments being completed to the negotiation of Veta Grande and other parties, and was only enabled to send 62,500 dollars to Tampico on the company's account, instead of 90,000 dollars. When the conducta started the mint remained owing 85,000 dollars, and had I been able to recover the company's half, say 42,000 dollars, the remittance would have exceeded the amount announced by Mr. Flores. As there are some payments to make in Mexico and on the coast, I have requested Messrs. Eversmann and Hoffmann to ship 55,000 dollars, (411,000) per first packet, which will be the amount left, after paying all charges and providing for the payments in question. Veta Grande: profit for August, 4 weeks, 88,598 dollars.

(To be continued.)

REAL DEL MONTE MINING COMPANY.—*Mineral del Monte, Sept. 25, 1835.*—I beg to inform you that I have drawn the undermentioned bills on the Real del Monte Company, at 60 days sight:—Sept. 21, No. 149 to 158, for £3,000; Sept. 22, No. 157 to 164, for £3,000; Total £6,000. This amount is drawn to pay off the loan in Mexico. Sept. 25, No. 165 to 172, for £3,000. This amount of £3,000 is drawn in order to procure funds for Oct. month's costs, and to take advantage of realizing the present month's silver produce, by introducing it for coinage in the mint, which having lately been placed under a new regulation, they have engaged to pay the amount of silver put in thirty days. J. RULE.

Sept. 29, 1835.—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of July 11, and notice its contents. The reply to many of your observations you will find anticipated by my previous letters, particularly that with regard to the falling off of the ley of the ore, which, indeed is the chief cause of our late state of embarrassment. This, I hope, however, will only be a temporary inconvenience, for if we have less of the superior kind of ore than when the Santa Teresa bottoms were first drained, there is an increase of azogue ore in different places, which, especially when Dolores comes into operation, will not only supply our present haciendas, but that of San Antonio also, and it will probably prove with this, as with all the other great mining concerns of this country, that the greatest resources will be found in the azogue rather than in the smelting ore. In dolores, however, we know we have a good deal of the latter, which I hope will prove abundant and lasting, but it must not be disguised that the rich ores are often fluctuating and uncertain of continuance, while those of azogue are more constant. I herewith beg to send you the usual monthly reports—by that of the mine manager, and the pitwork list, you will observe that we have lately been pushing our underground works with more than usual vigour. You will probably recollect that the object in forming the communication between Dolores and San Cayetano, by the 116 and 137 fathom vara levels, which you will observe, have been lately resumed, was explained some time since. Having lately taken into consideration the possibility of an increase of water by deepening the shaft, and opening upon the lode in Dolores, which might embarrass the engine there, we have thought it advisable to lose no time in carrying the formerly proposed plan into effect; that in the event of such an increase we may be conveying the Dolores water by the 116 fathom level instead of the 78 fathom vara level, and thereby keep Dolores' engine relieved as much as possible for operating downwards. The San Pedro level, from San Cayetano level, has just been holed to the Esperanza, driven east of Santa Teresa—the vein latterly in both these levels has been poor, but knowing there is a part thereof standing to the south, we propose driving a cross cut to make a trial of it.

(To be continued.)

HOLIVAR MINING ASSOCIATION.—*Tucacaz, Sept. 28, 1835.*—Inclosed I beg to hand you bills of lading for 928 tons of ore shipped on board the Elizabeth Moore, Agnes, Nestor, and Tweed. The Elizabeth Moore sailed on the 18th instant, and the three latter vessels will get away this evening. After loading these vessels there are about 650 tons of ore remaining, 300 tons of which are of a superior quality; the ore that is now brought down appearing to be better than the cargoes lately shipped. The cargoes for the Diadem, Brechin Castle, and Harriett, are therefore ready for them, and they will meet with quick despatch on their arrival. The quantity of ore brought down by water, from the 8th of August to the 12th September, is 325 tons. The river has somewhat subsided lately, but is still navigable by boats with nearly full cargoes: one of our new boats brought down 26 tons last week.—Note. The above four vessels have arrived at Liverpool; and the Diadem arrived at La Guayra previous to the 10th October.

PERRAN CONSOLS MINERS, Dec. 1, 1835.—We held our monthly setting on Saturday last; and expect to communicate the new engine shaft, with the adit in about a fortnight. We have a good course of lead ore on Mudge's lode, of which I made some mention in my last report. The appearances on Anthony's westward in the adit level is very flattering, and contains some beautiful stones of ore. The masons are getting on well with the building of the engine-house, and our other work as usual.

J. GRIFF.

COLOMBIAN MINING ASSOCIATION, Dec. 2.—Extract from Mr. Williamson's letter, dated Marmato, Sept. 8, 1835.—August returns, 81 lbs. 7 oz. 9 dwt. fine gold, obtained from 1007½ tons of ore, stamped by 31½ heads. Speed of ditto, 40 blows per minute.—Sept. 7. Average number of heads at work to this date, 35½; speed of ditto, 40 blows per minute; ore stamped 400 tons. Weather favourable, rains nightly, and supply of water well kept up.—*Party per Hannah.*—Mr. Treherne, surgeon, and nine miners, arrived on the 20th of August, all well.

CANDONGA MINING ASSOCIATION.—*Villa de Principe, Aug. 24, 1835.*—I have very much pleasure in being able to announce to you the fact of my having full, complete, and legal possession of the properties at Candonga, as described in a deed prepared by Messrs. Freshfield and Sons, dated London, 16th March, 1835, and by the same ceded to the Candonga Mining Association. I am happy to say, that Capt. Dalley, Mr. Lott, Mr. Freeman, and the whole party, with the exception of one man left sick at Oweo Preta, have arrived at their destination. I have come hither for the purpose of making some final arrangements, and shall return to Candonga in a few days. A. F. GOODRIDGE, M.D.

ST. HILARY MINING COMPANY.—*Gloster, Nov. 28.*—I am happy to report that the progress made by the men employed in sinking the new engine shaft continues quite satisfactory. The shaft is now sunk and secured 134 fathoms under the adit, which leaves little or no doubt but the men will be able to accomplish their contract by or before Christmas-day. The engine continues to work in a very satisfactory manner, and our rods, pump-work, &c., are in a state of preparation to fix as fast as we make the shaft, so that no delay will arise on that account to prevent us from speedily unwatering the mine. The ground has been favourable in the adit end driving south to cut Wheel Leeds south lode, the men have driven 10 fathoms since setting day (3 weeks): the air is at present bad; but we shall shortly communicate the end with the shaft sunk from surface (on the lode to ascertain depth), which the adit will have the effect of unwatering, and we shall then be enabled to open east and west on the lode at that level. In the western adit end the men have driven 6 fathoms since setting day, and have 4 fathoms more to drive to complete their bargain: the ground continues hard, but not unfavourable. Saturday will be our general monthly setting day, the particulars of which shall be forwarded. C. N. BEATER.

POLKREIN MINING COMPANY, Nov. 29, 1835.—This day being our usual monthly setting, I beg to hand you the following report, viz. We find we have now about 4 feet more to drive north on the cross course, to get under the direction of Stansby's engine shaft, and when the ground is driven, we shall at once bore a hole in order to unwater said shaft, which is at present suspended, in consequence of the increase of water during the past few weeks. At Vice's shaft we have finished cutting plat, &c., and have sat to sink below adit. At Thomas's shaft we are again in a regular course of working, and hope in about six weeks to hole to the cross cut driving from the bottoms. In stopping the bottoms we have of late been dealing the lode, and shall continue to do so for some time, but in a much shorter length than heretofore (as a winze), in order to communicate to the deep adit as early as possible, which will be an incalculable advantage; the lode at last sight looked very battering, as noticed in for-

mer letters. The deep adit end appears to be still improving, having a large lode, producing excellent work for copper impregnated with tin; one great disadvantage, however, is at this time want of air to make greater progress. We have to-day set the walls of the count-house, to build, &c.

R. ROWE, Jun.

UNITED MEXICAN MINING ASSOCIATION.—*Guanaxato, Sept. 28, 1835.*

The statements of the Mexican judicial authorities, in the matter of our remonstrances against their arbitrary acts, have never been left unanswered by me to our minister in Mexico, who is fully aware that I am still calling for inquiry into our grievances. These remain, as ever, totally disregarded; and every endeavour on my part to induce the tribunals to do us justice are as vain as ever. In regard to the transmission of the informes of the judges from Zacatecas to the Mexican supreme government, I only maintain that rejoinders to these, so long as they are of the nature of those hitherto sent, do not in the least advance our cause; but on the contrary, become only the incentive to further excursive dissertations of the Mexican authorities upon general propositions abstractedly, not admitting of controversy; but as these papers from the judges do not meet the question of the particular grievances of which we complain, they leave me no room for reply, except the equally general negation that justice is totally denied to us. This brings the question simply to this—is our statement of oppressions sufficiently grievous to be thought worth while inquiring into by some person deemed competent and sufficiently impartial by the British government—for without inquiry no step is gained towards establishing our case. By inquiry, I mean an examination of facts, and law as it ought to be measured out to us; and how it has been administered towards us. All that comes from us is naturally the statement of a party, and is not entitled to full credit as proof, without examination. The question now rests as follows. We have alleged grievances—the Mexicans deny this. Such a state of things as we originally complained of continues with unabated force to this day; that is, all our property is confiscated in Zacatecas without a legal sentence, without our citation, without a legal plaintiff, without owing any party a single dollar, and we are denied redress by any Mexican authority. Is our case one of *prima facie* oppression, or not? If so, we claim inquiry; and if what we allege prove to be true, we presume our government will do us the justice to compel the Mexicans to the observance of treaties—that is, that we shall be protected from arbitrary power, and duly protected by the Mexican laws as they really exist, and not as the iniquitous Zacatecas judges pervert them, with a view to despoil us of our property. The Mexican executive claims that the judicial power (by which it means also judicial persons) is beyond its control; this question is essentially important to be set at rest between England and Mexico, and is most evidently a political one, proper for the consideration of the respective governments; for if it is once admitted, as the Mexican government interprets it, that it is clear that it is worse than useless complaining of judicial oppressions, when no possible relief can be obtained, and only the vindictive passions of the judges excited, to punish us still more grievously for informing against them. It is evident that this part of the case has no dependence whatever upon what is further said by us, as it is beyond the province of the Company to insist upon any decision upon it, more than to point out, that if this claim is once admitted, British subjects generally are without any guarantee whatever in such a country as this, where the usual considerations that impel men in high stations to the performance of their duties are absolutely wanting. In the present state of our affairs, a commission of inquiry is wanting, to ascertain what is the Mexican law relating to sequestrations, and then to examine if what we state be the truth or not.

RAYAS TREATY.—Another packet will, I trust, bring me the opinions of the Directors upon what has been actually done in this matter, and when all the motives which induce me to conclude this affair shall have been before them, and the advantages really obtained by that arrangement attentively weighed against the adverse circumstances which attended any further prolongation of hostilities. I still trust there will appear sufficient reasons to justify my proceedings. In the meantime it would perhaps not elucidate the matter much, to anticipate the objections that may be raised, or pretend to refute them, until they are made.

LAW SUIT WITH ST. ANTRIA.—It has been found necessary to send Mr. Rodriguez in Zacatecas, a special power, similar to the one Mr. Glennie had last year, for carrying on the sombreter appeals in Zacatecas. It is yet to be seen whether this new quibble of the authorities is maintainable; as to the competency of the Zacatecas's agents to defend the property under their charge from sequestration or not, for this is the question which has compelled me to send new powers to Mr. Rodriguez. We are at length promised a decision upon the Sombreter appeals. Our San Acacio Existencias are still forcibly detained from us, notwithstanding decrees ordering their restitution. Our deposit in the mint is not likely to be paid so long as the surplus of Fresnillo is applied to the purposes of the general government. Our debt from the Fresnillo Maquila, from the same cause is not recoverable. Our property distributed by order of the Veta Grande Judge to the owners of San Acacio is irrecoverably lost by such an arbitrary proceeding; and as matters are at present in Zacatecas, all the realizable property of the company must infallibly all be dedicated to cover law charges.

CINCO SEÑORES.—It is possible that some arrangements may one day be made with the New Fresnillo Company for the lease of this Hacienda.—*Carara.*—So long as I am without resources and surplus from Rayas, I shall not be able to send any more funds so Mr. Hampshire or anywhere else. In El Oro concerns nothing new. GEO. O'GORMAN.

GUANAXATO.—Statement of weekly receipts, Payments, and remaining assets from August 22, to September 22, 1835.

Asset on 22d August	£14,480	3	2
Aug 29. Receipts... £15,190	2	0	
Payments... 11,858	3	6	
Surplus	3,731	6	2
Asset on 29th August	£18,212	1	4
Sept. 5. Receipts... £4,839	0	0	
Payments... 11,875	6	6	
Deficiency	7,036	6	6
Sept. 12. Receipts... £13,843	2	4	
Payments... 10,614	5	6	
Surplus	3,228	4	6
Asset on 12th September	£14,403	7	4
Sept. 19. Receipts... £1,899	6	4	
Payments... 11,454	7	2	
Deficiency	89,555	0	6
Asset on 19th September	£4,848	6	6
Sept. 26. Receipts... £19,954	6	4	
Payments... 7,763	1	4	
Surplus	12,181	5	0
Asset on 26th September	£17,040	3	6

GUANAXATO, 28th Sept. 1835.

GEO. O'GORMAN.

IMPERIAL BRAZILIAN MINING COMPANY.—*Rio de Janeiro, Sept. 8, 1835.*—The sittings of the Chamber are continued to the 20th instant, and may last longer, and by way of giving an impulse to your dependence, I have to-day applied to Mr. Fox to urge the government to a decision, and will not fail to advise you of what may occur. G. NAYLOR.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 16, 1835.—I am sorry that I cannot announce any progress in the duty question; I had an interview with Mr. Fox, and addressed him officially on the subject, and Mr. Campbell, who has just been with me, continues to press Dr. Bivar, and receives assurances from him that something will be done; but I regret to see the Gongo Soco 25 per cent. duty appear amongst the items of revenue for next year, estimated at 74 contas of reis. It is said the Chamber will sit till the 3rd proximo. G. NAYLOR.

WORKINGS FROM THE 19th TO THE 29th AUGUST, 1835.

10 days... 14 lbs. 1 oz. 1 dwt. 3 grs.

From the 1st of July to the 29th of August,

190 lbs. 2 oz. 12 dwt. 5 grs.

MOCABAS AND COCAES MINING COMPANY.—*Cocas, Aug. 29, 1835.*—We have driven 6 feet further north on the lode at Halford's shaft, and we are very glad to say we have cut a vein from which we have taken some excellent samples of gold. There is also a great improvement in the appearance of the lode at M'Donnell's 21 fathom level. J. HITCHENS.

COCAS, Aug. 29, 1835.—Samples have been taken from the vein in Halford's cross-cut, 7 oz. 22 grs. were taken from little more than a hubble of Jacutinga; the gold is stronger than any we have yet met with, and fluorescent. The stamps are now working admirably.

B. H. M'DONNELL, EDWARD WALLER.

THELEIGH CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.—*Redruth, Nov. 23, 1835.*—I now beg to hand you my report of these mines. On my first inspection with you, and that of the surface only, I was surprised at finding such a field for speculation, in a mining district unexplored below the adit level; and on a further examination below the surface, I am more surprised at seeing an adit, at a very great expense, brought into and drove through so many fine lodes that have yielded great riches in the mines adjoining, scarcely even opened upon in these mines to the west; for instance, the deep adit level is not extended on that fine lode more than three fathoms west of the Wheal Shanger engine shaft, although nearly the whole of the lode is taken away above that level in the eastern part, and we are taking down a piece of the lode which has been left in the side of the level, to prepare for driving this end west, in a fine champion lode, which I have no doubt will ultimately handsomely pay the proprietors. In the deep adit level, west of the engine shaft, on Wheal Maria lode, we have a small branch of ore, but, until we have a communication for air, little can be done in this level. I have, therefore, put four men to sink a winze from the level above, which is called the seven fathom level, under the shallow adit, and intend bringing back the deep adit-end-men to rise against the winze, to have a thoroughfare the sooner. The shallow adit level on the same lode, just under the gossan, looks well; the lode is about eighteen inches wide, composed of gossan, spar, muriac, and ore, with a little jack. In the adit level west, in Wheal Christoe, the lode is large, and will produce one of excellent quality, very like what you saw drawn from the shaft in North Downs, just to the east on this lode. We are stopping a piece of ground in the shallow adit, east of the engine shaft, on the little lode, by four men, at 10s. tribute and a little tut-work, for securing against the shaft; they have some good ore, and are likely to do well, and of course profit the adventurers. This level is driven only three fathoms east of the shaft, and I intend resuming it immediately; it is a small lode, but good ground, with a branch of ore six inches wide, very good. We have likewise cleared off the cross-cut south of the engine shaft, and discovered a fine lode in about sixteen fathoms south, underlaying north, and will be in the engine shaft about fifty or sixty fathoms under the deep adit level. This lode was worked on the east to great profit, which gave the name of South Good Success; in this place it has a promising appearance, about two feet wide, and I intend putting men to open upon it immediately. If possible, we intend drawing out the water from the engine shaft and Wheal Shanger shaft, to try if we cannot sink them: from the quantity of water running out, I think we can, at all events (time, as we say, being everything) nothing shall be left undone that is likely to profit the adventurers, or turn out for the advantage of the mines. We are getting on well with our surface work. The whole of the western yard-wall is up, and the eastern part getting on well; beside, this will finish the foundation for the engine house. Our quarry turns out better than was expected: we have one hundred loads of stone already in the mine. W. SINCK.

ST. JOHN DEL REY MINING COMPANY.—*Morro Velho, Aug. 13, 1835.*

TREATMENT OF ORES.—I shall send down to Rio in about 10 days time, 10 cwt. of our average ores, such as they go the stamps, naming the part of the lode whence extracted, and the size of the lode in that part, as also the length which we suppose such quality of stone contains. I am convinced you will make far better average assays in England than we shall here. I think that 3 ounces will represent the richest stone, for it appears that Mr. Morretson once had some of the ore assayed in Rio, and the result was the same. There appears to me to be stones of three different degrees of richness—the richest being represented by 4, it appears to be 4.21. for I see the stamps vary in their produce between these proportions, sometimes each head yielding 4 oids, as sometimes 1 oid. *Amalgamation*, in some shape, must succeed here. MINE.—The greater part of the stone now supplied from the value is poor in consequence of coming from the new first slope. The sinking goes on well at present. The Quebra Panella is now filling up, and I hope to have all secure there before the rains come on. *Vinagrad Shaft*.—We have commenced driving from the bottom of this shaft east to cut the lode, and shall soon turn round on one side of the shaft, as rise to the old workings. The end is already in the lode—the stone looks very much like that of other lodes, from which considerable quantities of gold have been obtained. It is very soft at present and runs. P.S. 14th. Some of the rotten quartz, from the Vinagrad lode, shows good deal of amorphous pyrites. This is said by some of our blacks to be the legitimate stone. This is low from the cause above stated. C. HERRING, JUN.

MEM.—Advice from Messrs. Harrisons, of Aug. 25, also state the acquirement of 10 more blacks for Mr. Herring.

Aug. 22, 1835.—The sinking is now going on satisfactorily in the Rahu, a most important circumstance with us, as upon it depends on steps, and in the rainy season little will be done in sinking. The Quebra Panella is filling up, and I trust all will be made scarce there before the rains. A cross cut is being made into (it is supposed) the lode from the bottom of the Vinagrad shaft. There is at present some mixture of mud and stone, that I have formed no opinion upon the subject. From the concurring testimony of several of our old blacks, scarcely doubt of finding something good near here. PRODUCE.—The Rahu shaft and first slope being poor, our produce does not average about 46 oids per diem, exclusive of tank.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1835.—*Baker's Shaft.*—A good progress has been made in sinking: the stone broken from the shaft this month has not been good, from having a deal of slate or killas mixed with it. 8 men by day and 4 by night, with one English miner also by night stationed there. *Baker end west.*—The end is now about 42 fms. wide 4 men by day and 2 by night on the average.—*Baker Stope.*—It will probably take us 6 weeks before we shall effect the communication between the shaft (Baker) and stope through the first arch: 15 on the average sloping.—*Crickets Shaft.*—Three sets of timber have been put in, and the shaft raised 9 feet. We have had 6 labourers, with 2 English miners, employed in knocking down the overcharging rocks and earth. The last fortnight 10 labourers, with the gold washers, assisting occasionally. We do not anticipate this work will be completed under five or six weeks.—*Vinagrad Eng. Shaft.*—A level has been driven 9 ft. from the bottom of the shaft: nothing has been done since the 23d inst. Five or six days we shall be in a state to commence again. Seven bateas of stuff have been washed, all shewing a little gold. The 2 English miners and 3 labourers have, since the stoppage, been employed continuing the shallow adit 6 fathoms.—*Reduction*

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